

# THE SATURDAY ANALYST AND LEADER;



A Review and Record of Political, Literary, Artistic, and Social Events.

New Series, No. 31.  
No. 541.

AUGUST 4, 1860.

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**The News, No. 123, Published**

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## THE LAZY-BONES PARLIAMENT.

NOTHING can be worse than the British House of Commons, if the mode of its composition is considered theoretically. So many members are returned by the dictation of the aristocracy, and the remainder, with scarcely an exception, purchase their seats with an extravagant expenditure, directed by professional sharpers, who contrive that elections shall be managed with the least possible regard to the principles of honesty, or the fitness of the candidates. The suffrage is restricted under the pretence that the working-class is not sufficiently educated to understand political questions; and, at the same time, a system is sustained which almost precludes the possibility of an intelligent constituency returning a representative qualified for his task. When a vacancy occurs, the question is, not who would make a useful member of the Legislature, but who can be found who will bribe the attorneys, employ the printers, open the public-houses, purchase the old freemen, and treat the electors at large. The choice is limited by these conditions, and not once in a hundred times will a man who deserves to be an M.P. comply with them at all. The orders of men who will pay the money, and pass through the ordeal of degradation, may be summed up in a few words. They comprise the political hacks of both parties, who look to the corrupt administrators of patronage to recompense their outlay, of place-hunting lawyers, joint-stock company diddlers, and vain, wealthy idlers, who find the House of Commons the pleasantest as well as the most expensive club.

Gradually, but steadily, have the influences worked that produce this result, until we have arrived at an elective assembly which seems near the apotheosis of respectable delinquency; which is widely divorced from the intellect of the country; which cherishes no aspirations and exhibits no patriotism; which knows and cares nothing about political principles, and has become too lazy to pay attention to any question it has to decide. It is a pity that Mr. Gladstone, and one or two other valuable men, should be members of such a body; it would be better to leave it to its corruption—to let it putrefy and disappear all the more quickly for the removal of its small modicum of saving salt.

Some time ago a celebrated essayist enquired why "people of taste" objected to Evangelical religion. Since then, Mr. Babbage has descended on the "Decline of Science in England," and we now want some one to conduct a philosophical investigation into the causes which have made politics a bore, lowered the faith in public men, and rendered the proceedings of Parliament a most heartless and empty-headed waste of time. If Englishmen were more given to abstract speculations, they would be conscious of a declining faith in representative institutions. The working class stand outside the pale of the suffrage, making no efforts to get in. They want a larger share of the wealth they assist to create; they want better education for their children, more leisure from daily toil, and a higher standing in the social scale. Formerly they thought politics everything; now they think them nothing. But if the first state had its inconveniences, the last is not without its dangers, alarming enough to any one who can see a little further than his nose. It is true the grievances of the working class are social rather than political; but legislation and taxation come into contact with social questions at every point. Without legislation the rural labourer will for ever suffer from the squire's non-performance of the duties that ought to be inseparable from property in land. While the state protects the game in preference to the peasant, the lord or squire will pull down the cottages, compel the labourer to walk miles to and from his work, and ruthlessly deprive him of the means of decency or health. Nor is legislation less needful to secure the rights and raise the condition of the factory artizan. It is the fashion to boast of our industrial civilization, the might of our steam-engines, and the number of our looms; but there are few spectacles more dismal than the ugly, squalid streets of a manufacturing town: and no philanthropist, no Christian can believe that the masses have no higher destiny than exhausting toil, for no better result than a bare provision of the necessaries of a low form of animal life. French treaties and extended trade are fine things in their way, but if they only keep a somewhat larger population, at the same level of suffering, want, and crime, neither civilization nor humanity have gained much by their operation. It is true that the factory serf to-day has some comforts which the old feudal baron could not enjoy, but while the total of good things divisible by society has increased, the mode of

division is, if anything, less equitable than in some former times.

A Parliament that represents the selfish interests of the wealthy classes, does not interest the working man; and if no improvement in representation takes place, he will look to some other means of bettering his state. Nor does this sort of Parliament interest the men of original minds. Its Loryism is pig-headed ignorance and self-seeking, and its Radicalism has no basis in earnest, painstaking thought. The Liberal leaders in the House of Commons have not for many a day furnished a new idea, or suggested a new application of an old one. The Manchester school has lived upon a fragment of the thinking of men like Huskisson, Bentham, and Mill, and has never arrived at a higher view of political principles than as commodities for exchange. For years they bothered the country about India—they helped to destroy the Company, because it did not force its subjects to grow cheap cotton, but they had no practicable scheme of Indian government, and they now find that they gratified their destructiveness at the expense of a dangerous increase of the patronage of the Crown. Unfortunately, no other school of opposition politicians has become conspicuous, and session after session passes without remedying a single important social wrong, or performing one single promise of Constitutional Reform. Members do not like work, they prefer voting without hearing the debates. During the debates preceding the second reading of the Indian Army Bill—one of the most important measures of this or any other session—according to Col. Sykes, "the maximum number of members present was only 38, while at one period it dwindled down to 28." Such a Parliament is not an honour to the country, but a national disgrace, and yet it is the natural result of those principles of election which are defended with so much zeal.

If it be not possible to change the working of our representative institutions they must decline; the press must form and collect the opinions that are to rule. Such a theory is by no means uncommon; but we cannot believe that Parliaments have done their work, and regard a revival of interest in their proceedings as essential to the welfare and stability of our society. Politics will have to become social, and all great questions must be looked at in the light of Bentham's famous principle of the "greatest happiness of the greatest number." We have yet solved no important question of the relative claims of labour and capital; and scores of strikes every year demonstrate the barbarism of our condition. If, as Mr. J. S. Mill, and other leading thinkers believe, some form of associated labour must replace the present relation of master and servant, why does Parliament neglect the consideration of the case? The answer is plain, that it is a Parliament, not of statesmen, but of capitalists, who wish to delay the hour of change. Whether we look to home or Colonial Government, we find that our legislature does nothing to grapple with a single, great social question, and this is the fundamental reason why it is sinking into disrepute. We produce crime and pauperism in customary and time-honoured abundance; and if we can point to some ameliorations of the condition of the masses, we find them balanced, or nearly so, by corresponding depressions. This is shown by striking facts, such as the large area, in which cottages have diminished while population has increased, and in the lower condition of stocking and silk weavers, as compared with former times. When the factory system replaces home industry, the number of persons employed may be greater; but their condition is worse. It is more dependant, and necessarily associated with a painful neglect of domestic duties. This fact was the cause of the shoemakers' strike in Northampton and elsewhere. The men were mistaken, as the Coventry weavers are, in resisting change; but they were right in a moral rebellion against the degradation of their condition.

It is enough to have in the House of Lords a drag upon our wheels. If the House of Commons is determined to be a vulgar caricature of the Lords, and be a drag too, our legislature will be all drag and no wheels, which the country will not be able to tolerate as a permanent condition of things. We have now a House of Commons that cannot pass a budget till the fag end of the session, when it surrenders its rights to the Lords; that cannot get through a Bankruptcy Bill; that cannot pass a Reform Bill; that will not pay attention to anything that relates to India; that has not been able to get up one single intelligent debate on foreign policy; that has no other idea of national defence than voting any preposterous sum that is

demanded ; that will not reform the administration of the army, and that no cabinet or party can reckon upon with sufficient certainty to make business practicable. It is clear we want a series of enactments that shall have the effect of changing the material of which Parliaments are composed, but with any system of election it may be doubted, whether much good will be done until the sittings are held in broad daylight and in business hours.

Next week the House of Commons will have an opportunity of redeeming its errors. It can vote on Monday against Mr. Gladstone's proposal to fulfil the conditions of the French Treaty, by abolishing the penny a pound protection which our paper-makers wrongfully enjoy. By this means it will bring about a dissolution—the greatest service it can perform.

#### THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

THE worst fears of those who opposed the transfer of the Indian Government to the Crown are fast being realised. Whilst the Company were the rulers of the country it was governed in India itself, or by men who had spent the best parts of their lives there, who knew the character of the people, and felt a warm interest in their welfare. Now it is governed almost exclusively from England, and by mere trading politicians, who never saw the country, and care very little about it. The whole power is being gradually concentrated in the hands of the SECRETARY OF STATE, who boldly avows his contempt for the advice which the Councillors given him by Act of Parliament may offer. The House of Commons, to whom he is nominally responsible, thinks an Indian discussion a bore, and confidently sustains him by a great majority against the small minority of members who take an interest in that rich dependency. That such would be the result of the change was urged at the time, but the public were artfully taught to believe that the mutiny was the fault of the Company ; whereas, so far as it was attributable to any mismanagement, the Board of Control was really answerable ; and were besides deluded by a glowing picture of the advantages to be obtained from the substitution of a responsible and energetic single Government, for the tardy indecisive double Government. With all its credulity the country would not, however, have willingly consented to put absolute power into the hands of any one man. It saw in the Council of India a guarantee against wild and experimental legislation, and a provision for the thorough discussion of all schemes which the SECRETARY might propose, by men fairly representing the intelligence of the Indian services. That guarantee, however, was a mere sham. The Council has no real power whatever. It may record its opinions against any measure which is submitted to its consideration, but the Minister is not, according to the Government interpretation of the Act, bound to submit his measures to it, and will, of course, not do so where he has reason to anticipate an adverse opinion. If Sir CHARLES WOOD is sustained by the House of Commons in this defiance of the spirit of the Act passed two years ago—and there is little reason to hope that he will not be—the Council might just as well be got rid of, their salaries saved, and the principle boldly avowed that the best qualification for governing two hundred millions of men is absolute ignorance of their condition and character, with the corollary, which the European Forces Bill practically affirms, that Indian affairs ought to be settled directly in the teeth of the counsel of those persons most competent to form an opinion upon them.

The pertinacity with which this Bill has been pressed, and the falsity of the pretences put forward to induce its adoption, have not unnaturally occasioned the suspicion that a very powerful influence has been exerted upon Ministers in its favour. Warranted as this suspicion would seem to be by the singular support which the chiefs of the Tory party—with the remarkable exception of the only one who knows anything about the question—have given the Bill, we prefer at present to ascribe the pertinacity and the false pretences to other reasons. The original object of the Bill, and still its main one, was the acquirement of a vast amount of patronage hitherto kept from the clutches of the Horse Guards and Parliamentary jobbers. With all their good qualities the Whigs have always had a weakness for the flesh-pots ; and the chance of getting them here was all the greater, that the officers of the Queen's army in the House, a formidable body, would be sure, without distinction of party, to support a scheme for opening to their comrades and connexions the good things of the Indian army, whilst the votes of the Court Hangers-on were equally assured. Lord PALMERSTON and Sir CHARLES WOOD want to get the whole patronage of India into their

own hands. Good reason, other than this, there is none for the change they propose, and hence the necessity of resorting not only to absurd generalities about simplicity and responsibility, but to disgraceful calumnies against the local army. Nor need we wonder at the singular pertinacity with which this Bill, condemned by every one but patronage jobbers and hobby-riding theorists, is pressed ; whilst a Reform Bill, of which the bulk of the people were in favour, and a Bankruptcy Bill, to which, as a whole, no one objected, have been abandoned almost without an effort. It would not bear examination. There is the possibility that repeated discussions might, at last, draw public attention to the danger of the change, and make it clear that all the authorities, whose opinion is worth anything, are against it, and thus the adroit suppression of papers, of which Sir CHARLES WOOD seems entitled to the credit, lose its legitimate reward. Mr. HORSMAN is not a popular man, and there is therefore nothing to be risked by bullying him in, but the fierce retorts which fall lightly upon such easy, thick-skinned mortals as the PREMIER, and the rest of the opponents of the measure are a motley group of the independent members of both parties without organisation or coherence. The leaders of the opposition are booked. Mr. BRIGHT, with whom India is a specialty, has not thought fit to take part in the resistance to a measure which it is certain he must condemn, and the opposition being thus incarnated in Mr. HORSMAN, who, thanks to the persistent blackening of Ministerial organs, has not only got the most unmerited reputation of being a mere party declaimer, but the equally undeserved credit of opposing every measure in a mere spirit of contumacious opposition the triumph of Ministers seems assured.

Unless, therefore, the House should at last by this brave opposition which Lord PALMERSTON styles factions, but which really is most patriotic, be awakened from its apathy, or the Peers, discharging in this case a legitimate function in which the country would sustain them, reject the Bill, the Indian army will soon cease to exist. It has had a glorious history, done the work it had to do well, and would have continued to form the best defence of British rule in India. Its discipline and efficiency have been far superior to that of the QUEEN's army when in India ; and the mutiny charged against it was provoked by the most disgraceful conduct of the Government. Mutiny, indeed, it could only technically be called. The men had reason and justice on their side. Thanks to the maintenance of this force, we have had great men rise in India, men fitted to rule vast masses of their fellows, men who have saved their country in her hour of need. In the Indian army merit has always been able to make its way ; whilst HAVELOCK remained years in obscurity and saw rich nooties every day raised over him ; young men had gained in the Indian army the opportunity of displaying their talents, and with that opportunity came the road to fame and rank. The officers, knowing that India was to be the scene of their lives' work, took a deep interest in the country and its people. They learned its languages, they threw off that arrogance and inhumanity which too often mark the conduct of the Englishman to coloured and subject races. Knowing the people, they could govern them when called upon to do so ; and knowing the climate, they could protect themselves against its dangers.

By amalginating the two armies—in other words, destroying the local force—we lose all these advantages. Officers knowing that India is to be the scene of but a few year's work will, of course, not devote themselves to studies, an adequate return for which could only be gained by spending their whole working lives in that particular service. They will care nothing about the country or people, their only object will be to pass the time as well as possible until the long expected day comes when they are relieved. The constant reliefs necessary will add largely to the cost of the military establishments, and whether it fall on the revenues of India or England, such a burden is equally oppressive. The patronage, instead of being vested in those who were interested in the selection of the best men, will fall to the Horse Guards and Parliamentary influence. We have won, and held India, because the system allowed the best men to come to the front. We are taking the surest means to lose it by changing to one which has always given the nooties the chief places, and kept poor merit in the back-ground. This is but the first step. The turn of the Civil Service will come next, and then the whole revenues of India will be at the disposal of Downing-street and the Horse Guards, so long—no great period in all probability under such a system—as the country yields any revenue, and England retains it.

## THE EMPEROR'S LETTER.

**U**SURPERS are nearly always better than legitimate kings ; and the Monarch of the *coup d'état* is a much pleasanter and easier person to deal with than any of the Royal mediocrities of the old sort. His friend, Lord PALMERSTON, has just tried to excite a little international animosity for the unprincipled purpose of diverting attention from measures he wished to drive through the House of Commons without any inquiry. In the City his Lordship's warlike oration was immediately quoted at a great discount, and the fall in the Premier's veracity prevented the decline of Consols that must have taken place, if any credible witness had borne the same testimony to the imminence of our danger from France. But all the world is not as well able to value a PALMERSTON splutter as accurately as our shrewd men on 'Change ; and to prevent misapprehension the Emperor of the FRENCH has written a private letter to his AMBASSADOR, for the purpose of having it shown to our MINISTER for FOREIGN AFFAIRS. In this document appears plain and straightforward assurances of goodwill that are at any rate worth more than Lord PALMERSTON's balderdash, and their sincerity is shown by the readiness to join us in a policy adapted to make the best of the Syrian difficulty, and secure for Italy the right of settling her own affairs.

We are too strong for NAPOLEON III. to attack us for an "idea," and the close approximation of Austria and Prussia renders it desirable for France and for Europe that we should be on good terms with our ally. The Prince of PRUSSIA has promised not to attempt to Austrianize his dominions ; but it is believed he also has promised FRANCIS JOSEPH to obstruct the independence of Italy ; and in the event of a renewal of war, to place himself in a position of antagonism towards France. Being an obstinate shallow person of the old "right divine" sort, the Prussian ruler fears the realization of Italian Unity, and has not the wit to give up the Austrian pretension that the Rhine must be defended on the Mincio. If he perseveres in this policy, he will in due time convince the French that the independence of the Mincio must be secured on the Rhine. This may be the reason why Lord JOHN RUSSELL persists in offering timid impracticable counsels to VICTOR EMANUEL ; and while he refuses to act against GARIBALDI by force of arms, continues to batter him with diplomacy, in the hope of inducing him to leave Naples alone. A Tory is never happy but when wrong ; but it is a pity a Whig is never comfortable when right. Lord JOHN RUSSELL has behaved in many particulars better than any Foreign Minister we have ever had ; but he cannot simply accept his own principles, and leave the Italians alone. If they have a right to settle their own accounts with their own sovereigns, and choose GARIBALDI as the best man to enforce their claims, why remonstrate with their good sense.

The right of Italy to national existence is an indefeasible, absolute right, and no fear of consequences to other States should make us falter a moment in affording a steady, moral support. If the Prince of PRUSSIA chooses to take the most foolish course open to him, through his leaning towards absolutism, and his hatred of popular liberty, this is no reason why we should wish the Italians to pause. We may tell the German people that the folly and selfishness of their Princes tends to bring them into conflict with France, and to endanger their beloved Rhine ; but we ought to apply the principles of equity and common sense to the whole transaction. The people of Italy have a moral claim to aid from the German or other Powers, because their cause is just ; and if those Powers go against them, and force France into another war, they will have no right to complain if France makes them pay the cost of the process.

If GARIBALDI succeeds at Naples as he has done in Sicily, they will come a rising in the Romagna, and after that Austria must either abandon Venetia, or be prepared to encounter a revolution both there and in Hungary. According to probable versions of the Töplitz interview, the Prince of PRUSSIA has undertaken to exert himself to stop these beneficial results ; but let him not fancy that, after he has employed his power to prevent the liberation of Italy and Hungary, he will have any claim to English aid on the Rhine. Our letters from Italy leave no doubt that the fall of CAVOUR and grievous difficulties to VICTOR EMANUEL would follow the stoppage of GARIBALDI's plans ; and when matters have gone a little further, Sardinia will be compelled, by the public opinion of Italy, to make good her promises not to cease from her exertions until the quadrangle is garrisoned by Italian soldiers, and the Austrian vulture is driven from St. Mark's.

If Lord J. RUSSELL can influence Prussia, let it be to join England and France in the liberation of Italy. Austria, isolated as she ought to be from the German Powers, would soon give way ; while, if they will make the mad and criminal

effort to sustain her, they will encounter retribution in the shape of the Zouaves on the Rhine.

The Napoleonic letter is worth a careful study, and if its writer had not been a marvellous master of dissimulation, no one could for a moment entertain a doubt as to its sincerity. If taken only as relates to the present, we do not feel disposed to cast any doubts upon it, and we think that reasonable prudence on our own part will cause its writer to continue in the same mind. We are not deluded by the assertion that the army and navy of France are not stronger than in the reign of LOUIS PHILIPPE ; but we are powerful enough to view them without alarm.

NAPOLEON III. will not willingly repeat the errors of NAPOLEON I., and bring about a coalition of all Europe against his throne. If we were foolish enough to follow the Manchester School, and lay ourselves open to attack, we should probably suffer for our temerity ; but a man like the Emperor of the FRENCH respects strength, and he knows that we possess it.

If it were possible for France, Russia, and Austria, to combine for our overthrow and for the division of the East, there might be cause for alarm—not for our destruction, for they could never accomplish it—but of prolonged and disastrous wars. Such a dream may have entered the mind of some ambitious despot, but no reason exists to fancy it can be carried out.

The Emperor confesses that the peace of Villafranca made it difficult for him to agree with us about Central Italy ; but happily that agreement did not facilitate his agreement with Austria, and he now expresses a wish "that Italy may pacify herself, no matter how, so that it be without foreign interference." He adds that he wishes to be able to quit Rome without compromising the sanctity of the POPE ; and that, as regards Syria, he would be best pleased if he were not obliged to interfere at all. All this is consistent with a rational conception of his own interests, and it will be no derogation from our dignity if we accept it in good faith.

Upon our home politics the letter will have a good influence. It strengthens Lord JOHN RUSSELL and Mr. GLADSTONE, while it keeps Lord PALMERSTON and the Tories in check.

## FREE AND SLAVE LABOUR.\*

THE question of labour, in all ages of the world, has been a difficult one to deal with. Unappreciated at its true value, it was natural that it should be relegated to slaves. But now that we have arrived at more correct notions on the subject ; the labourer rises in our esteem, and indeed is recognised as the highest title of the truly free man. Strangely enough America, the land of freemen, the collected advocate of the dignity of labour, has, in these modern times, been the greatest sinner in associating the blessed privilege of having something to do with slavery. The Jews more highly regarded that privilege when they brought up their sons to some calling, whether entitled to a fortune or to none. The truest blessing to any individual, is to have the capacity and opportunity for labour. And it seems that, in that same anomalous America, the question between free labour and slave labour is at last to be fought out. We rejoice to hear it, even though at the expense of a civil war, with which we are threatened.

We say we—for England is as much interested in the question as the United States. Let Manchester tremble. The case stands thus :—We are now mainly dependent upon the United States for the raw material of cotton, and that supply is now in peril. Cotton and commerce are identified, and Great Britain suffers with them. In a word, "stop her cotton supply, and you hurl her from her rank amidst the nations." This is the grave question at issue.

Mr. Edge has enabled us to put the entire argument with clearness before our readers. The immediate peril arises from the circumstance, that this year the United States elect a President in the place of Mr. Buchanan. "For the first time," says Mr. Edge, "in the history of the Republic, the two principles of free and slave labour stand face to face. The Northern Free States are preparing to declare that slavery is *sectional*, and shall henceforward be illegal, except in those States where it already exists. The South is preparing to maintain that slavery is *national*, first at the polls, and afterwards by disunion or civil war."

The logical advantage is great of being able to put the question before us in technical terms like these. It is next to certain, we find, that the Northern Free State party will have the power to choose the forthcoming President ; who, in turn,

\* *Slavery Doomed; or, The Contest between Free and Slave Labour in the United States.* By FREDERICK MILNER EDGE. London : Smith, Elder, & Co.

will have to swear to maintain the Union of the States, and will be compelled to keep his oath. Mr. Edge then demands how, with civil war impending, with the Southern ports perhaps blockaded, and all communication with the North destroyed,—how shall we in England obtain our cotton?

The Northern States, which are fast driving matters to this issue, are, however, not Abolitionists—not *exactly* Abolitionists; they merely insist on the non-extension of slavery; they keep within the bounds of the American Constitution. "Slavery is a *State*, not a *Federal*, institution, and it must therefore be understood that slavery can only be abolished by the Legislature of the State where it exists." They leave, therefore, to the Slave States themselves the privilege of delivering themselves from the curse to which they object; but they will not permit it to spread beyond its present limits. Citizens of slave States, however, who are for the abolition of slavery, indulge in bolder ideas and language. One of these, Mr. Hinton Rowan Helper, thus speaks of "the impending crisis," in a pamphlet so entitled, and thus denounces the slave-holding oligarchy.

"Frown, sirs, fret, foam, prepare your weapons, threat, strike, shoot, stab, bring on civil war, dissolve the Union, nay, annihilate the solar system if you will,—do all this, more, less, better, worse, anything—do what you will, sirs, you can neither foil nor intimidate us; our purpose is as firmly fixed as the eternal pillars of heaven; we have determined to abolish slavery, and, so help us God, abolish it we will."

It is, therefore, in the midst of the slave States themselves that the fullest response might be expected to the denunciations against the system of Gerritt Smith, Frederick Douglass, and Mrs. Stowe. Slavery in these States is, unfortunately, a part of the inheritance they derived from the mother country. Virginia and North Carolina were colonised by the cavaliers, men who answered the psalms of the Puritans by the songs of the Stuart Court. Feudal lords or retainers in their forsaken country, they naturally sought to form around them a similar civilization in their adopted home. The English "estate" emigrated, and became the American "plantation." Serfs were changed for negro slaves. The same holds good with reference to Maryland, settled by Irish Catholics, and the Huguenot colony of South Carolina, which grew out of a strictly feudal element. Georgia, colonised at a later period than the above, under the auspices of General Oglethorpe, adopted similar usages to Virginia and the Carolinas, on the ground that as the agricultural productions of their settlement were the same, so must their mode of cultivation be. "Seeing," says Mr. Edge, "no other excuse for slave-holding, it was a plausible defence of their iniquity, to assert that agricultural operations could only be carried on in Southern climates by African labour, and that as the negro was incapable of taking care of himself, his master should do so by making him his *chattel*." The world keeps moving, and so do the Southern States of the American Union, though it be, like a crab, backwards. Slavery, which they originally defended, on the ground of their own self-interest, they now advocate on holy and Christian principles, teaching 'a newer gospel than that delivered to the saints,' and declaiming that by its means 'the children of Ham will be brought into the fold of Christ.' And there are thousands of misguided men in the South who honestly believe they are doing God service in thus acting. Truly, the human heart is the devil's lawyer."

And is it, then, our aristocracy that we perceive reflected in the "peculiar institution" of these Southern States? Yes—in its last distorted, exaggerated form—ay, and in its essential elements. Let us, then, on this account investigate the evil thing more closely. It would appear, says Mr. Edge significantly, "that an all-wise Providence had set apart the American Continent for the arena in which the principles of right and might, of slavery and freedom, should battle out their claims on their own merits."

One sign of the evil, is the want of prosperity that attends it. The Southern States have declined, while the Northern have advanced in population, wealth, and power. The types of either are Virginia and New York. In 1790, Virginia had double the number the inhabitants of New York; in 1850, she had less than half. "At the taking of the last census, the value of real and personal property in Virginia, including negroes, was 391,646,438 dols.; that of New York, exclusive of any monetary valuation of human beings, was 1,080,309,216 dols. In August, 1856, the real and personal estate assessed in the city of New York amounted in valuation to \$11,740,491 dols., showing that New York city alone is worth far more than the whole State of Virginia."

The slavery of these States operates as an insurmountable

obstacle to immigration. The position in them openly taken, that "labour is a badge of servitude," naturally deters the intending emigrant. He is made quickly to discover that the slave districts offer no home to him. He is regarded as on a *moral* par with the slave, being obliged to work to eat, and is also undersold by the latter. Slaves, instructed in all branches of trade, are let out as chattels by their masters, at comparatively nominal prices; far too moderate for the poor white man to feed, clothe, and lodge his family upon. Under these discouragements, immigration at length altogether ceases. Louisiana is the only slave State that increases its populations by foreign immigrants, the nationalities being mostly French, Spanish, and the Southern races generally.

Some of the Southern States are happily fast losing their pro-slavery character; such, for instance, as Delaware, Kentucky, Maryland, and Missouri, from their contiguity to the free States. The proportion of slaves in Delaware and Maryland is yearly diminishing, while the number of free negroes is increasing, and the time is not far distant when these two States will abolish human servitude. Missouri, in the far West, is approaching the result in a still more rapid manner; it is expected that five years hence she will be a free State. Mr. Edge enters largely into the statistics of the question, and the book before us contains numerous and extensive tables on every point. In reference to their educational facilities and intellectual advancement, the free States are beyond all comparison superior to the slave States. The former say of the latter, "the South only produces niggers and cotton." In fact, the well-to-do Southern community send their children to the North to be educated; hence the young men return home with consciences unsettled as to the sound policy and the justice of slave-holding. Even thus it is that Providence secures the growth of freedom. All the men of literature, science, and the arts, belong to the North. The South is barren of these and other good fruits. But it has been politically more active, while the North has attended more to commerce; hence the temporary domination of the former—but this can no longer continue, now that the North is alive to the importance of the contest. It is also gratefully remembered that "nowhere in the constitution of the United States is slavery recognised, or even referred to." The framers of it having studiously avoided any reference to the evil, lest they might be considered to have in some manner indorsed it. However, by the admission of Missouri into the Union, a fatal compromise was initiated. Thenceforward there were two parties only in the country—slavery exten-sionists, and slavery prohibitionists.

The Fugitive Slave Act of 1850 has been considered the triumph of the party of the South. To them are also due the continual attempts made on the independence of neighbouring States. Mr. Buchanan has been sustained in power, because he stood pledged to the slave-oligarchy to do his utmost to annex Cuba to the Confederation.

Our author gives a long account of the Kansas troubles, and the noble battle maintained to make it a free State. We can only deal with the results. All these significant struggles ended in 1858 in the defeat of the pro-slavery party. And now that the Republicans are likely to get into office, such defeat may be expected to be followed by many others.

We near the conclusion of our argument. Next November, it is stated, the election of an anti-slavery extension President is sure to take place; and the annihilation of southern terrorism is the natural result, including the repeal of the Fugitive Slave Act, the confining of slavery within its present limits, and the destruction of filibustering, annexationising, and the secret carrying on of the slave trade. The Southern States forbade the result, and are avowedly preparing to resist. Should the projected rebellion ensue, the North, we are told, will not hesitate a moment. Hundreds of thousands of bayonets will be poured into Virginia, Georgia and the Carolinas. "To question the result would be," says Mr. Edge, "to doubt in God and civilization." England must necessarily be seriously affected by this state of American affairs. The cotton supply from America must be diminished—may cease altogether. It becomes, therefore, expedient that we should direct attention to India, Natal, and our West Indian and other colonies. Many of these are suited for the cultivation of cotton. The slave States are driving from their confines thousands of freed coloured men. To these we should offer an asylum in Jamaica and other colonies. With the additional labour of these well-tried, industrious, and eminently serviceable men, we may very soon cultivate our own cotton. In another respect, too, we shall be benefited by the impending change. We need no longer to keep up expen-

sive fleets on the coast of Africa and in the Mexican Gulf, for the new Government of Washington will reverse the foreign policy of the slave power, and render the slave trade impossible. Our author adds, that were our Government to encourage the cultivation of cotton along the Western Coast of Africa, any future anxiety as to supplies of that staple would be obviated, and we should have done for ever with the trade in African slaves. Cotton is indigenous to that Continent, and labourers may be numbered by millions. Let it be shown to the chiefs, who now carry on continual wars for the sole purpose of replenishing their coffers by the sale of their prisoners, that the cultivation of the cotton plant would be immeasurably more remunerative, and they would quickly desist from killing the goose that lays the golden eggs. Our present policy with regard to the slave trade, Mr. Edge thinks, is simply ridiculous; for we enhance the value of the shipments which evade our cruisers, and thus offer an inducement for the continuance of the traffic. These suggestions appear to us of much value; and we trust that the author's hopes may be fulfilled.

## BRIBERY.

IT was COLERIDGE, we think, who said that, if he were clergyman in a village where "wrecking" was practised, he would preach about nothing else till he cured it. The intention was laudable, but the operation might be difficult; the fear is, that the subject would pall, and the physic sicken, before the cure was produced. We have been writing against "Bribery," that is, we, the Press of England, ever since the "Commons" were of consequence enough to make a Parliamentary seat an object of ambition, and not a task to be deprecated, which, as some of our readers may know, was the case once. When a member was paid for his trouble, and disqualification was a privilege, and not a stain,—a time, probably, when the Commons still trembled before the Lords, and made little either by vote-selling or place-giving,—when one of the tricks of Statecraft recommended by Sir WALTER RALEIGH was as follows:—

"To suffer the poorer and meaner sort to be absent, and neglect their (state) assemblies, under pretence that they will not draw them from their business and private earnings, yet withhold to cite thither some few of them, viz., so many of them as are easily overmatched by the richer sort, to make a show that they would have the people, or poorer sort, partakers likewise of those matters, yet terrifying those that come to their assemblies with tediousness of consultations, &c."— *Raleigh's Maxims of State.*

Such precautions against the poor are now entirely needless. There are others, more effectual ones, sufficiently referred to in our title; we have got through the medium phase, when Scotch members were paid for doing Parliamentary duty as a labour, and richer Englishmen paying for the same as a privilege.

It is astonishing how long vices take killing; longer, even, than interest. In one of the many fortresses which our favourite hero GUSTAVUS captured, he found the court of the castle thickly strewn with apparent corpses, in all the attitudes of death; but, on examining more closely their physiognomies, he discovered a warm ruddiness of the most suspicious character, and with a poke or two of his scabbard, set them, though in a penitent and submissive state, upon their legs again. So it has been with the agricultural interest, in spite of its imitations of collapse; and so, perhaps, the brewers' physiognomy will not lose much of its colour by the acidities of claret.\*

\*\* We do not wish too much to interrupt the course of the text, but there is a passage in an old play, "The Wits," which suits amazingly some of our "dying interests." The hero wishes the lady to understand that he has been dying for love.

Elder Palatine.—Heaven knows how I have groaned, and pined, since first Your letter gave me knowledge of the cause.  
Lady.—It is not seen, sir, in your face.  
Elder Palatine.—My face! I grant you; I bathe inwardly;  
I'm scorched and dried, with sighing, to a mummy;  
My heart and liver are not big enough  
To bear a daw; a lamb laid on the altar  
For sacrifice hath much more entrails in it.  
Lady.—Yet still your sorrow alters not your face.  
Elder Palatine.—Why, no! I say no man that ever was  
Of nature's making, hath a face that's moulded  
With less help for hypocrisy than mine."

The scene proceeds with equal humour on the same tack, but we cannot quote more. The play is by Sir William Davenant.

It is the same with our political vices, which are hunted like that noble animal the stag, only to be let loose again, and not nailed up, like vermin, at the barn door of Saint Stephen's.

A mischievous knight in "Ariosto," when cleft from the skull to the chin, manages (it must be confessed, under rather painful and difficult circumstances) to murmur out a confession, and then dies decently and penitently; but bribery—

"Media in morte negauta

Experare—"

has all the resurgments of the heads of a hydra.

Shoreham formerly, St. Albans lately, are disfranchised in vain: the pest re-appears at Wakefield and Beverley. In vain did Pitt present, in 1783, the resolutions, "That it was the opinion of the House that measures were highly necessary to be taken for the further prevention of bribery and expense at elections;" and SHERIDAN inveigh, in 1797, against those "who, indeed, could not buy men and sell them, because that was not yet to be done; but who bought and sold boroughs, and with them sold the dearest

rights of the people." Alas! neither of the protesters were pure. One could create peers by wholesale, to carry his measures; and we should have been sorry, in his days of debt and difficulty, to tempt SHERIDAN with a large money-bid for his support.

But the question is whether bribery is not more rampant and impudent than ever. We track the mischief with some trouble; personified, it stands before us, ready for execution; and, with a precious spirit of nepotism, Mr. BRIGHT, the defender of the people, the would-be purifier of the House of Commons, does not wish matters to be pushed to extremes, and Mr. JAMES, another of our Reformers, seconds him. It is enough to disgust any honest voter, and to raise in the House of Commons the reciprocally encouraging, but degrading cry, "Tantara-rara, rogues all." We go back, for something of a parallel, to the case of Hindon,† near Salisbury, where, in 1702, "upon a complaint of

† Burhet, Book vii.

bribery, the case was so full and clear, that they ordered a Bill to disfranchise the town for bribery; and yet, because the bribes were given by a man of their party, they would not pass a vote upon him as guilty of it; so that a borough was voted to lose its right of electing, because many in it were guilty of a corruption in which no man appeared to be the actor." Now, it is a wink between the parties, and the upper classes cant to the lower ones about educating, and, forsooth, moralising them, in order that they may deserve suffrage, when the real desire of half of them is to make this a pretext for delaying the time when they may have more votes to pay for, being as incapable of perceiving the chance of the people's improvements in honesty, as of their own; which is, it must be confessed, rather hopeless in the case of those who have all along been sinning against light, and who persist in doing so still. How dare we deny the people votes, at any rate, on the pretext of the superior morality of the rich.

Bribery is so old a crime, and in some cases so congenial, that our senators seem to view it very much as the country lad views poaching, and as the sailor on the French seaboard viewed contraband traffic; to some of whom, nevertheless, our aristocratic SHALLOWS on the Bench take care to show little pity, though, in reality, they are not only far more innocent, but, strange to say, have views far more enlightened than those who punish them: the smuggler anticipates the wisdom of the Senate, and, with his eye on the weather quarter, is the first to see the lights of the vessel of free-trade; and the poacher, though blindly and savagely, and far the least innocently of the two, carries on a guerrilla warfare against the baronial power, against which we have all been fighting, when he knocks down the *fera natura* which crosses his path. Whilst you, moral aristocrat, feed your own corruption on the more pardonable corruptibility of your poorer brothers, and perpetually act a lie against the British constitution on which you are so fond of dilating, and commit what you know to be against its laws. When will you learn, not to buy votes with gold, but "golden opinions from all sorts of people," by character and kindly concessions? When will you learn that a lie is no less a lie, and dishonesty is no less dishonesty, if bent to obtain an end which they succeed in obtaining, simply because everybody knows of the roguery? This is something worse than your "not at home," and your "very obedient servant;" nor is it even on a level with the "not guilty" in a court of justice. If you confess that you sell your honours to save your country, in the first place there are more views than one of "saving a country," and in the second, when you sacrifice your honour, there may be also more views than one of the mighty value of the offering.

It is our earnest hope that the press, or at least the honest part of it, will ever carry on the battle, though it may have to do so against the cupidity of the poor, intentionally encouraged by the rich, against dishonest Tory, or dishonest Radical, against the slyness of individuals, and the impudence of cliques and parties; they will have all honest men on their side; and the more inveterate the evil, the better worth their perseverance and their steel. The openness of bribery is a blot on England's character, which makes the corrupt Governments on the Continent laugh at our theory of constitutional representation of the people; and, unfortunately, the laugh is merrily echoed by too many on our own shores, in whom the sentiments of Sir ROBERT WALPOLE about "saints" and "patriots" still survive, and who care about nothing but "social position," got and saved at the expense of any price and any principle. We have had a long lease of national power and national glory, despite our faults, and they are many, but we cling none the less firmly to a golden maxim of the German SCHLEGEL:—

"At no time has a political constitution or mode of government been devised which could permanently supply the place of principle."—*Philosophy of History.*

We have read with pleasure the recent, as we should any measures or bills for putting down bribery; but, after all, the *morale* is what we want improving.

## THE LITERARY PENSION LIST.

A N annual fraud is perpetrated by Government on the people of England, under the above title. By the Parliament of WILLIAM IV, twelve hundred pounds a year was allocated from the Civil List, for the purpose of being distributed in pensions to literary, scientific, and artistic persons. This sum, accordingly, is voted every year for that ostensible purpose; but it is never, except to a small extent, applied to it. In evidence, we may quote the

present distribution of the fund, between the dates of June, 1859, and June, 1860. Three daughters of a late clerk in the War-office are set down for £50 a year, in addition to £50 granted to them in 1855. To six sisters of the late Dr. LARDNER, £125, in equal proportions is awarded, "in consideration of their late brother's labour in the cause of science." A "daughter of HOPPNER, the painter," is to receive £100 per annum; a lady, who, we understand, is the widow to a late consul at Naples. To Dr. BLAKELY, the scientific writer, £100 are given; and to Mr. EDWARD AHERSTONE, £25, in addition to £75 he has already, "in consideration of his great services to literature." To Miss JULIA PARDOE, the traveller and novelist, £100; and to the widow of a sea captain £50 a year. To Dr. ROBERT BIGSBY, "in consideration of his great services and contributions to the literature of his country," £100 per annum; and to the Rev. HENRY LOGAN, who has contributed to mathematical and scientific literature, £100 a year. To the widow of the late BISHOP OF ANTIGUA, £150 a year; and to two daughters of HENRY COET, the discoverer of the "pudding" process in iron, £50 each. A lady, for her benevolent labours among the London seafaring population, £50. The daughter of the late Sir SAMUEL BENTHAM, £100; and the widow of a consul in the United States has £50, in addition to £50 granted to her in 1851.

Of this sum, not so much as a moiety goes either to literary and scientific men, or their relatives; and even of these we should find it exceedingly hard to approve the selection. Are they the most deserving, the most meritorious, or the most serviceable? The late Sir ROBERT PEEL was not accustomed to regard these pensions as charities, but as encouragements and rewards, and gave them to such men as WORDSWORTH and SOUTHEY, not in paltry sums of £25 and £50, but in donations of £200 a year. His successors have regarded the matter in a far different light, and have accepted poverty as the principal recommendation. Even if this were rightly the rule, the recipients of such bounties should have belonged to the literary classes. But these classes are so far from being exclusively regarded in the administration of the fund, that the majority of the *beneficiaries* consist of impoverished ladies'-maids, bishop's children, doctors, consuls, Government clerks, inventors, schoolmasters, military and naval men, and teachers in the royal nursery—people whom it may be quite proper to subsidise, but not out of this fund. Meanwhile, there are really well-deserving men, pursuing the higher branches of literature, to whom the proper assistance to which they are entitled from such a fund would be not only a great assistance, but also a greater benefit to the country. Now and then, indeed, such men as TENNYSON are selected to give a lustre to the grant; but, in general, the real working intellect of the country is avoided, and people of whom little is known, and less expected, have the preference. And even these are few in number; the bulk of the recipients consists of paupers without merit, and impostors who have no claim to the gratitude of the country, or the recognition of the Government in any shape.

As a charity, we repeat, that this fund should never be regarded by its distributors. It is an insult to literary men of the present day, who are as well employed and as well paid as any other class of professionals, and some of whom are making even handsome incomes. There are others whose labours are less popular, but more beneficial in the long run, whose studies, rather than the men, require Government support; and these (the philosopher and the *savant*) are entitled to claim it, not as a charity, but as a right. In the interest of the people we likewise claim it for such, as conducive to the greatest ultimate benefit of the popular mind. But, if the grant is to be considered as a charity, let it at least be given to those who give name to the Pension List. Let it be given to literary people, and not to others, in their name. If literature must be subject to this insult, for the sake of a paltry annual grant of twelve hundred pounds, let the literary man reap the profit with the shame. Let him not be regarded merely as a foundling, who is to give name to an hospital, but not to receive the benevolence intended by the donor and founder. There is nothing immoral in the idea of such a fund, nothing injurious to the public interest; and therefore it cannot be politically or socially expedient to divert it from its original destination. While this continues the practice, we (concluding this article with the statement with which it commenced) pronounce that an annual fraud is perpetrated by the Government on the people of England, and that money is obtained and expended on false pretences.

#### ITALY IN TRANSITION.\*

DOCUMENTARY history is always instructive. By a decree of Farini, as Dictator of the *Emilia*, commissioners were appointed to search the archives in order that the plenipotentiaries of Europe should have in their hands the means of judgment in the Congress expected to assemble at Paris. The documents so collected fill in the original two ponderous volumes. Mr. Arthur has abridged, collated, and connected them in one portable volume which now lies before us.

The subject is introduced by a humorous description of "Savoy, pending annexation with France." The people, by our author's account, regarded their relations with Piedmont as nothing better than those of a tributary province; because, owing to the barrier of the Alps, they could not have any commercial intercourse with it. After the decree of annexation had passed, he describes the troops of French soldiers winding among the Alpine passes. The Savoyards, he adds, "seemed well content that they and their vines were to

belong henceforth to the nation to which their language and their interests pointed them. It is a poor country, but beautiful, and with its lakes, its mountains, its vineyards, its glaciers, and its sunsets, if it is henceforth to be known in European diplomacy as the *IDEA*, it must, at least, be admitted that the idea is a romantic one."

Mr. Arthur writes with eloquence, and his passage across Mount Cenis is picturesquely described. And here it is that he discusses promotion by purchase in the British army, as forming the topic of conversation among foreigners whom he met, French and Italian soldiers in fact. This third chapter describes Turin, during the voting upon annexation in Central Italy. Here is some fine writing. The church of the *Vaudois* is grandly treated. It is, as he says, "an aboriginal Christian church, holding the forms and the doctrines handed down from the most distant Christian times." He was greatly impressed with the Piedmontese soldiers; he never saw men better dressed, or of finer physical proportions. He was as much pleased with the people. They were in a state of exultation with the present; as to the past, "they seemed to think that the Emperor of the French was well paid by Savoy; and that, however serviceable he had been, they had acquitted their debt to him."

That Napoleon III. has lost moral influence by demanding Savoy, Mr. Arthur is certain; nor less so, that the Pope has suffered by his threat or mockery of excommunication. On the interesting question whether Italy can ever become Protestant, he thinks that time will show men how inevitably temporal despotism arises out of spiritual.

The notion of an united Italy fills the Italians with rapture. The isolating system has been carried to extremes. The different dialects of Italy, owing to it, are scarcely reconcileable. They are not the mere brogues or accents which we find in different parts of the British islands, but really deserve to be called separate dialects; so much so, that the inhabitants of one part of the country can converse in the presence of those of another, with tolerable security, that they will scarcely be understood; and, as to a foreigner, they put him out at once. This inconvenience, great as it is, will subside before an united Italy. The social will follow in the steps of political progress.

The fifth chapter describes Milan, during the rejoicings for the annexation of Central Italy with the Northern State. The Milan cathedral struck our author with admiration, and induced him to meditation. "Those old walls, and their predecessors, have seen the gradual corruption of religion, and the successive wrongs and oppressions of Italy. They now hear the shouts of a hopeful uprising." In a coffee-house he found papers with these words in large letters, "We are a nation! We are eleven millions! For the first time, since ancient Rome, we can to-day use the words, 'we are a nation!' Italians have learned to unite. Again we cry, 'we are eleven millions!'" And this strange joy of their newly-found nationality, he adds, seemed to throb in the veins of every man you met with. Among the crowds assembled on the occasion to which the chapter relates, there was an intelligent, thoughtful looking man, of about twenty-five, who turned to two friends, who seemed like "fast" young gentlemen, and said, "We must all become Protestants." This was the first time our author had heard such an expression from an Italian, and it took him by surprise. The dandies were startled. Hereupon Mr. Arthur took the opportunity of explaining to them the nature and office of Protestantism. To this the elder of these youths replied, very gravely, "O! yes; I know all about it; that is the thing for us. Italy will never be right, until we have that. I have books, and I have read them, and I know;" and, turning to his comrades, he said, "You must read ecclesiastical history. You must read the *Vandels*." This may be added to the intimations noticed by us some weeks ago, of a concealed Protestant feeling in Italy, only awaiting its opportunity.

The official documents of which Mr. Arthur has made use are very damaging to the Austrian Government and the Papacy. As to the latter, the Bolognese stated that Rome was a den of assassins. The police were in league with the robbers, and the priests with the police. When a great robbery was committed, the culprits, even if imprisoned, were always discharged. They got a share, and the authorities a share. As to assassination, any man who had committed one, if he had only money, could at once make friends with the priests, and the evidence broke down, and he was set at large. But an honest man who dared to think was punished without mercy; or a poor man who happened to get into prison, and had no money or friends to carry the priests' influence for him, might lie there and rot, before they even took the trouble to bring him to trial. Verily, here is a picture, in little, of a great universal fact. One of the last men with whom our author talked in Bologna, looking out with an eye where consumption gleamed, said, "Sir, the Almighty is tired of Rome!"

This book is, altogether, a hopeful book; and, as it is well written, may be read extensively. The author fulfilled a sort of mission during his journey. Continually he explained the difference between Protestantism and Romanism, and asserted the true nature of Catholicism. He seems to have been well fitted for this kind of work; sufficiently learned, with a clear and logical head, and a moderate amount of enthusiasm. His opinions are sometimes peculiar. He believes that both the Papacy and Mohammedanism are doomed to ruin; the causes of their decay, however, are opposite, as their development was by opposite tendencies. Islam has lost territory, but held fast the opinion of its own people. Rome lost its strongest races by the revolt of opinion. Both have now long been dependent on foreign support; but, in the case of the Sultan, it is to protect him from the aggression of neighbouring States, or the uprising of conquered races;

\* *Italy in Transition. Public Scenes and Private Opinions in the Spring of 1860. Illustrated by Official Documents from the Papal Archives of the Revolted Legations.* By WILLIAM ARTHUR, A.M. Hamilton, Adams, and Co.

with the Pope, it is to sustain him against his own. Here there is a mighty difference. Nevertheless, a doom hangs over them both. Islam sees all her frontiers falling in; Rome her centre heaving beneath her. The question is not "will they fall?" but "when?" The earthquake is prepared, and only awaits the command.

#### M. DUMAS' GARIBALDI.\*

THE life of a hero so romantic as Garibaldi, told by a writer so romantic as Dumas, will naturally read like a romance, and we have accordingly to make great deductions in perusing the so-called autobiography by Dumas of Garibaldi. In a preliminary address, M. Dumas lets us into some of the secrets of freemasonry, as used by the great Napoleon for his purposes. The mightiest of the time were members of the mystical brotherhood. It was their policy; but in this, Louis XVIII., on his return to France, would not share. The Bourbon had neither forgotten nor learned anything. He declared that "he never would allow a member of his family to form part of any secret society whatever." Italy now neglected freemasonry, but Carbonarism took its place. "This association seemed to have taken up the task which masonry had abandoned, that of furthering the cause of political emancipation." Two other sects took the same direction, that of "The Catholic, Apostolic, and Roman Congregation," and that of "The Consistorial Society." In these few words, we have the romance of contemporaneous history.

Let us proceed. Carbonarism was the only one of the associations that survived the tentative trials. In this, Lucien Bonaparte was raised to the degree of "Grand Light." The sect ultimately took the name of the "Latin Society." It was very extensive. One document states that, in the kingdom of the Two Sicilies, it numbered eight hundred thousand souls; and that neither the efforts of the police, nor any other vigilance, could check its unceasing growth. Five years after its establishment in Italy, Carbonarism had obtained, as its results, the recognition of a constitution in Spain, a constitution at Naples, and the proclamation of a constitution in Piedmont. All these suffered, however, from after events.

We cannot retrace a story so well known. M. Dumas ends it with these words: "Charles Albert had now become one of the family of sovereigns in the Holy Alliance: and, like the Pope, like the King of Naples, like Francis IV., and like Ferdinand VII., his hands, too, were stained with the blood of his people. There was, at that time, living at Nice, his native place, a young man who, after seeing all this blood flow, resolved to take an oath to consecrate his life to the worship of that liberty for which so many martyrs had fallen. This young man, then twenty-six years of age, was Joseph Garibaldi." And now the autobiography opens, and the hero is permitted to speak for himself.

It is not needful for us to go into the detail of this, having already reviewed the substance of the work in another form. The work takes us down to 1849. One extract is suggestive. It is this: "Before the news of the flight of Ledru Rollin and the democratic party to England, every day which I prolonged the existence of Rome was a day of hope. After receiving that news, resistance was nothing but useless despair; and I conceive that the Romans had done too much in the face of the world to stand in need of having recourse to despair. The coalesced powers had enclosed the Roman Republic, that is to say, all the democracy of the Peninsula within the old walls of the Aemelian. We had nothing more to do but to break through the circle and carry, as Scipio did, the war into Carthage. Now, our Carthage is Naples; it is there that I hope some day despotism and I shall again meet face to face. May that day be near!"

That day is approaching; perhaps it is not even to-morrow, perhaps it is even to-day. This work is well calculated to enkindle patriotic enthusiasm for liberty and independence.

#### CURIOSITIES OF NATURAL HISTORY.

THERE are few pleasanter writers, of a gossiping kind, than the son of the late Dean of Westminster, whose devotion to geology won for him an abiding name. Mr. Francis Buckland very successfully hit the public taste in his first series of the "Curiosities of Natural History," and he will scarcely be less fortunate with the second which is full of varied information, most pleasantly conveyed, and adorned with a marvellous frontispiece, in which an ichthyosaurus is biting through the long neck of a plesiosaurus, two pterodactyls are fighting a duel in mid air, while ammonites, nautili, and wonderful fishes crowd each corner of the aquatic or terrestrial space. Mr. Buckland commences with a chapter entitled a "Geological Auction," in which he describes the sale of his father's private collection, and furnishes many anecdotes of the genial and humorous philosopher whose name he bears; one of which supplies a *recipe* for keeping an umbrella, that is unique in its way. It appears that the learned Dean suffered like the rest of the world from wrongful abstractions of an article which popular morality scarcely deems it a theft to steal, and to guard against a repetition of the offence, he caused the words "Stolen from Dr. Buckland" to be conspicuously engraved upon the handle of a somewhat ugly umbrella; this device succeeded, and the implement so oddly protected reached a venerable though dilapidated age in its owner's hands. Equally to the point was his method of stopping an annoying variety of trespass, which every one has experienced who possesses a collection of interesting objects, and is daring

\* *Garibaldi: an Autobiography.* Edited by Alexandre Dumas. Translated by William Robson. Routledge, Warne, and Routledge.

† *Curiosities of Natural History. Second series.* By Francis T. Buckland, M.A. London: Bentley.

enough to expose them without the protection of an impervious glass case. The doctor's drawing-room bore witness to his pursuits, and visitors remorselessly handled delicate fossils and minerals with that vexatious monkey propensity, for which school-boys are famous, and their elders seldom free. To set mantraps or spring guns, under such circumstances, would certainly be held right in ethics, whatever it might be in law; but the Dean adopted a milder plan, and obtained his object, by displaying the conspicuous admonition, "Paws off." "Ladies and gentlemen are particularly requested," &c., &c. might have failed, but there was an honest energy about "Paws off" that merited and achieved success.

Having cleared off the "Geological Auction," Mr. Buckland conducts his readers through a "Gamekeeper's Museum;" and in the relics of the miserable creatures, sacrificed under the name of vermin, he finds ample materials for amusing dissertation. We regret that he condemns the hedgehog as an eater of eggs, and consequent destroyer of game, for we had hoped that the reputation of our British porcupine had been maligned, and that he was guiltless of interference with the domestic economy of partridge or pheasant. Mr. Buckland's evidence, however, seems conclusive, although the mischief done by the hedgehog is probably exaggerated. He does eat eggs, and not satisfied with their contents, devours the shells.

Another chapter, "A Hunt on the Sea shore," affords an amusing introduction to marine zoology, and, on the authority of an anonymous correspondent in the *Field*, settles the dispute how the pholas bores his hole in the stone, by affirming that the feat is accomplished by a rasping motion of the shell. This has always been the most probable supposition, and it is satisfactory to learn that the process has actually been seen. The story of the pholas is by no means complimentary to men of science. For hundreds of years millions of these creatures did make their holes in various rocks along the shore. At least they were found in them, and the conclusion was inevitable that the hermit had dug his own cell. But how? The shell was as thin as paper, and very brittle. Its edges were adapted to a rasping process, but naturalists fancied them inadequate to the task performed, so they invented learned and ingenious theories, at which the pholas must have laughed, if he had heard them talk. One imaginative philosopher decided that the "silicious particles" imbedded in the anterior portion of the animal converted him into a living, and, we may add, a knowing "file." Unfortunately for this theory no such particles could be found. Other *savants* affirmed, that the rocks were pierced through the corrosive action of an acid. They did not know of any acid capable of making holes in chalk, clay, wood, and sand, but what did that matter? The philosophers wanted an acid of abnormal properties—they could think of nothing else that would screen their ignorance, and rather than tell the truth, that they knew nothing about the matter, the acid required was declared to exist. Had this been the case the peculiar acid must have been found, but its absence did not damage the hypothesis in the eyes of its inventors, and, to this day, natural history books repeat the idle tale. There is not much inductive philosophy in this, but it offers an illustration of the constant tendency of the human mind to invent any fictions, rather than confess that the solution of an enigma is beyond its present reach.

In other parts of Mr. Buckland's book will be found many stories of visits to whales thrown up on our coast, and of their gigantic anatomy, coupled with full particulars of some mermaids ingeniously compounded of monkeys and fish.

#### SIR A. H. ELTON'S NEW NOVEL.\*

THE old axiom, "more sinned against than sinning," might be brought to bear upon a large majority of cases in which the actions of weak and misguided men have been laid open to the gravest and severest reprobation. Often our course of conduct is shaped by circumstances, over which we have originally no power of control; and often, with the best intentions in the world, and while earnestly endeavouring to act uprightly and honourably by all with whom we are thrown in contact, we are turned aside from the straight path by some unexpected calamity, with which we are not constitutionally strong enough to contend, and the advent of which it would have been impossible to have guarded against, or even remotely to have foreseen. Doubtless, the world is uncharitable in many of the conclusions which it draws from ill-sifted appearances, and the denunciations which it utters against some of its more glaring and unfortunate delinquents. We are apt to judge too much from the surface, and do not dive deep enough into the hidden stream, to enable us to arrive at the root and core of the evil, the disastrous consequences of which we so deplore and condemn. Did we but educate ourselves in the habit of searching keenly and consistently to the bottom of things, we should, indeed, be surprised at our discovering how many of the accusations brought against individuals, who are thereby shunned and scouted by society, would turn out to be the grossest and most unfounded of calumnies; and also, how many extenuating circumstances might be alleged, even in the instances of some of our greatest criminals, sufficient to recommend them to the mercy and forbearance of their outraged brethren. Under the present system we merely look at the cause through the result, and much error, confusion, and misconstruction, is the necessary consequence of this superficial view of human nature. Sir Arthur Hallam Elton's novel, entitled, *Herbert Chauncey, a man more Sinned Against than Sinning*, is an admirable illustration of the theory we have just set forth. The hero, *Herbert Chauncey*, is introduced to us as the victim of the

\* *Herbert Chauncey, a man more Sinned Against than Sinning.* By Sir Arthur Hallam Elton, Bart. author of "Below the Surface." 3 vols. London: Smith, Elder, and Co.

spite and malicious enmity of others, rather than of his own misdeeds; though the author, wisely copying from Nature, which does not indulge us in many specimens of perfect humanity, has represented him as no saint, and he may be justly considered as having, in conjunction with the rest of his species, a fair share of vices and irregularities treasured up against him in the Book of Doom. Herbert first lays himself open to the voice of opprobrium,—by sacrificing the happiness of an innocent and devoted girl to the gratification of a selfish passion. In other words, having won the affections, and successfully solicited the hand of one Ada Littlecot, he first tampers with the trust she artlessly reposes in him, and then allows himself to be entirely withdrawn from his allegiance by the superior attractions of *Rosamund Esher*, whom he ultimately marries, leaving his first *fiancée* in a state of hopelesslessness bordering upon desperation. Our hero does not attempt to palliate his conduct in this matter, though he might, perhaps, be excused, under the plea of the uncontrolled emotions of youth and inexperience, but he protests against the punishment he receives as immeasurably greater than the offence. The father of the injured lady, *Sir Hugh Littlecot*, a man of an unforgiving and vindictive disposition, forthwith becomes the bitter enemy of his formerly elected son-in-law, the procuring of whose downfall becomes henceforward the chief purpose of his existence. During a popular election, in which our hero holds forth for a place called Meadshire, his character and personal affairs are suddenly assailed in a most unjustifiable manner; and he finds himself, from some mysterious cause, the object of popular hatred, violence, and contempt. The machinations of his secret enemy follow him into Parliament, and he is obliged ultimately to resign, in order to escape from the indignities and aspersions remorselessly cast upon him. Soon after, by the exertions of the same indomitable foe, he is ousted out of his possessions, made to appear infamous in the eyes of his wife, and finally ruined; his character and prospects being blasted beyond the possibility of retrieval. Thus have we placed before us, in glowing colours, the portrait of a man "more sinned against than sinning." Doubtless, many of the "reviled" of this world, if their cases were thoroughly entered into, would turn out to be no greater culprits than Herbert Chauncey, though they, like him, might be able to trace the origin of their misfortunes to some error or wilful misgovernment of their own. This is a decidedly clever novel, and will considerably enhance the reputation of the author.

#### PARLIAMENTARY ECCENTRICITY.\*

THE late Mr. Henry Drummond was well known to Parliamentarians as rich, odd, fanatical, and clever. At school he was the contemporary of Peel and Byron, and studied with them at Harrow. From thence he went to Oxford, where he remained two years; and, in 1807, on returning from a tour in Russia, he married, before attaining his majority, Lady Henrietta Hay, eldest daughter of the ninth Earl of Kinnoull. His grandfather, Lord Melville, had already brought him into contact with Mr. Pitt, and from that connexion he seems to have derived his peculiar political principles, which in the main were Conservative. More important still, perhaps, is the fact, that he became, by inheritance, one of the partners in the bank at Charing-cross, founded by the brother of the attainted Lord Strathallan, to whose integrity the sufferers under the proscription consequent upon the insurrection of 1745, confided the relics of their fortunes and the management of their affairs. In 1810, Mr. Drummond entered Parliament for the borough of Plympton Earle, and sat for three years, during which he carried through the House a bill (52 Geo. 3, c. 63), which made the embezzlement by bankers of the securities entrusted to them a misdemeanour, punishable by fourteen years transportation, the need of which has been since exemplified. He founded, also, in 1825, the professorship of political economy at Oxford. In 1847, he returned to Parliament, as member for the western division of Surrey. In later years, he was the patron of the Rev. Edward Irving and his sect.

The course of Mr. Drummond in Parliament was independent, both in political and religious matters. His notions were, in fact, individualities; conscientious, but odd. They were, however, not necessarily untrue, though bold exercises of the right of private judgment. He had, besides, a power of sarcasm which made him rather a dangerous opponent in the House. These specialities, in the eyes of his biographer, look like genius, and, in a certain sense, were constituents of a genial power that distinguished Mr. Drummond from the conventional men with whom he was associated. "From his sole political object," says Lord Lovaine, "the assertion of the honour and dignity of his country, and the maintenance of the institutions which secure them; neither the indolence too often engendered by wealth, nor the temptations of ambition, to gratify which many opportunities presented themselves, could turn him aside; incapable of selfish and personal motives, unwearied in labour, no ridicule could baffle, no opposition daunt him, and in the pursuit of justice and right he was never known to fear the face of man."

All this is true. What, then, was the peculiar originality of Mr. Drummond? It was this, that, as an opinionist, he had a bye-way of his own; his thoughts travelled not in the high way of schoolmen or statesmen. He was a private theorist, shielding his individual notions under cover of Catholic assumption and Constitutional fidelity. His mind did not progress with the age, but was ever contriving some neat little system for its own private gratification, and making points both of creed and conduct out of his own idiosyn-

crasy, which sometimes appeared absurd enough. He stood alone, and liked to do so, thinking thereby that he stood on an apex, in solitary greatness; but he was in error, he had but esconced himself in a niche from which the prospect that belonged to the elevation he desired was shut out. He had narrow prejudices concerning the press, Sunday, capital punishments, divorce, and other things, though he differed with Mr. Spooner on the subject of Maynooth College. Owing to these, Mr. Drummond's speeches, even when most clever, are of small value. They embody no principles on which the world is acting, or likely again to act. In the second volume, we have some religious essays and epistles, and among them one on the Fine Arts, which, perhaps, is the only thing truly readable in the collection; that contains some shrewd remarks, and some just criticism.

#### FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

SPECIAL.

HANOVER, July 31st, 1860.

LORD PALMERSTON's speech upon the fortification of England, has been grist to the mill of the German press, only they are somewhat surprised and puzzled at the suddenness and tardiness of the noble Lord's apprehensions of danger from the vast armaments and ubiquitous interference of LOUIS NAPOLEON. Lord PALMERSTON has, hitherto, been considered, by all parties in this country, as a personal friend of the EMPEROR'S, and his late alarming oration is adopted as a sign, either that a rupture of their friendship has taken place, or that a war between the two countries has become more than ever imminent. "Mais on va somme nous!" Is this state of things to be the sole result of the alliance of the two great nations, the heads of civilization? We have been taught to believe, that an alliance between England and France would secure the peace of the world; that, without their permission, no mouse should squeak. It is true, indeed, as I remarked in my last letter, that Germany has enjoyed a certain degree of liberty from the fears of their princes, but they have likewise shared, and still share, those fears, and, what is more, have had to pay dearly in consequence, in the shape of heavy taxes, dear provisions, and stagnant trade. If England now declares her alarm, by the mouth of her first minister, what must be the feeling of the immediate neighbour of France? If NAPOLEON represents the defeat of Waterloo, and is resolved to revenge it, the Prussians, who made that defeat so bitter, who placed bags of gunpowder under the Jena bridge, at Paris—who attached ropes to the statue upon the Vendome column, will, they know it well, be the first or last objects of his worst revenge. It is worthy of remark, that the mass of liberals, in Germany, are by no means inclined for an alliance with England, under the Ministry of Lord PALMERSTON, whom they have long been accustomed to regard as a persistent opponent to the union and material progress of Germany; they point to the anti-German policy ever pursued by England, while Lord PALMERSTON was Minister; the support of Denmark against Germany, with reference to Schleswig and Holstein; the threat to treat the vessels of the Whilom German fleet as pirates, on their appearing in the waters of Heligoland; and, more especially, they remember that he was Secretary at War in the Ministry which thwarted the Germans and Russians in putting an end at once and for ever to the power and influence of France, by utterly destroying Paris, and partitioning the countries which had been cribbed and united by the intrigues, marriages, and wars of the ancient kings of France. The English made use of Germany to strip France of her colonies, but left the latter on the Continent, as great as she was before, to be a constant thorn in the side of Germany. They can never forgive nor forget that, notwithstanding the insults Germany had endured from France, and the awful sacrifice of her sons, France was permitted to retain possession of Alsacia, a country thoroughly German at that time and, indeed, still so, in spite of the exertions of the French Government to Gallicise it. As nothing less than the partition of France, in case of a war, would satisfy the Germans, both liberals and feudalists, and as they cannot expect England to join in it, they would much prefer an alliance between Prussia, Russia, and Austria, even at the sacrifice of their present liberty, such as it is. They think, however, their loss of liberty would only be temporary; for, France crushed, and the excuse for the enormous standing armies removed, they would be able to deal with their princes themselves. It is certain that the diplomats of 1815, were neither very wise nor very far-seeing; and to judge by the results which have followed that settlement, it is an easy, if not easier, to be minister to a king than clerk to a merchant. The faith in diplomacy, as an art, is fast declining—overwhelmed by the experience of the last twenty years. Nobody wonders now that the plain country gentleman CROMWELL, the colonial planter WASHINGTON, the printer FRANKLIN, proved better rulers, lawgivers, and negotiators, than our Grace of God Sovereigns, our hereditary aristocrats, and our drilled diplomats. The exasperation at these everlasting tocsin-like orations, rumours, taxes, and armaments, has reached such a degree, that it must be calmed very soon, or it will find vent in a way that will serve as a lesson for all future times.

The numerous Conferences of the Princes show how ill the rulers feel at ease. They begin to perceive the folly of relying upon their armed hosts, instead upon the love of their subjects. They must perceive that the educated classes have not the slightest confidence in the ability of the Governments to protect them in their national independence, or their private property. Two or three hundred ragamuffins, with an imposing national rallying cry, may revolutionise all Germany at any moment, the great body of the people

\* *Speeches in Parliament, and some Miscellaneous Pamphlets, of the late Henry Drummond, Esq.* Edited by Lord Lovaine. 2 Vols. London: Bosworth and Harrison.

would either seize the occasion to declare their wishes or remain passive spectators of the struggle between the authorities and the lower classes. All Germany is as ready to endure passively a revolution as they have quietly submitted for these past ten years to constant war alarms and French supremacy.

The independent part of the German press seems to view the meeting of the Prince REGENT and the Emperor of AUSTRIA at Teplitz, with very great suspicion, notwithstanding the hopeful terms in which it was announced by the *Prussian Gazette*. The majority of the journals express the fear that the Prince REGENT may be induced, if he be not already predisposed, to enter into a reactionary alliance with Austria, as both did formerly with Russia. Of this, the re-actionary party, as represented by the *Kreuz-Zeitung*, appears to entertain hopes, which hopes are strengthened by the semi-official announcement that the REGENT will proceed to Warsaw, in September next, there to meet the Emperor of RUSSIA. For the reasons already stated, the liberals are not particularly alarmed at these Conferences, so long as France is excluded from them, and there exists a chance of a coalition being formed against that country; but they are aware that Austria, in spite of her relaxation of her police system, with reference to trade and the handicrafts, and her very lame attempt at a species of Parliamentary Council, in the form of *Reichsrath*, is evidently determined to maintain her old system; and as the *National Zeitung* remarks, she would be glad to secure the sword and treasure of Prussia to pursue her old system. Should the attempt to seduce the REGENT be made and succeed, it would destroy the influence of Prussia in Germany, and be the greatest misfortune to the whole nation. All hope of a peaceable transition from arbitrary to Constitutional Government would be lost, and the prospect of an united Germany further off than ever. The REGENT, however, will, doubtless, as long as the present Ministry is retained, hold firm to the present policy of Prussia, and not permit himself to be misled by silly ideas of kingship, by the Grace of God and hereditary rights, which are now-a-days without sense or value.

The endeavours to strengthen the union of the different States of the Confederation are being prosecuted at the Post Conferences at Frankfort, towards which both Prussia and Austria have made very acceptable proposals.

The *Prussian Gazette* states positively that, about a week before the meeting at Teplitz, an adjutant of the Emperor of AUSTRIA had an audience of the Prince REGENT, when an arrangement was agreed upon with regard to some of the most important questions pending between Prussia and Austria.

A meeting was lately held at Coblenz, to consider the best means of procuring the abolition of the Rhine tolls, one of the many hindrances to the trade of Germany. It was resolved to draw up a petition to the Diet for their immediate abolition. The Diet knows well the desires of the people on this point; but, hitherto, it has evinced little energy in the matter. The wish, however, at this crisis, to stand well with the people may spur it on, unless the upshot of the several Conferences of the Princes may render the governments superior to the popular discontent.

#### STATE DOCUMENT.

[Letter of the French Emperor to Count Persigny, on the subject of the Imperial Policy.]

ST. CLOUD, 25th July, 1860.

"My dear Persigny,—Affairs appear to me to be so complicated—thanks to the mistrust excited everywhere since the war in Italy—that I write to you in the hope that a conversation, in perfect frankness, with Lord Palmerston will remedy the existing evil. Lord Palmerston knows me, and when I affirm a thing he will believe me. Well, you can tell him from me, in the most explicit manner, that since the peace of Villafranca I have had but one thought, one object—to inaugurate a new era of peace, and to live on the best terms with all my neighbours, and especially with England. I had renounced Savoy and Nice; the extraordinary additions to Piedmont alone caused me to resume the desire to see re-united to France provinces essentially French. But it will be objected, 'You wish for peace, and you increase, immoderately, the military forces of France.' I deny the fact in every sense. My army and my fleet have in them nothing of a threatening character. My steam navy is even far from being adequate to our requirements, and the number of steamers does not nearly equal that of sailing ships deemed necessary in the time of King Louis Philippe. I have 400,000 men under arms; but deduct from this amount 60,000 in Algeria, 6,000 at Rome, 8,000 in China, 20,000 gendarmes, the sick, and the new conscripts, and you will see—what is the truth—that my regiments are of smaller effective strength than during the preceding reign. The only addition to the Army List has been made by the creation of the Imperial Guard. Moreover, while wishing for peace, I desire also to organize the forces of the country on the best possible footing, for, if foreigners have only seen the bright side of the last war, I myself, close at hand, have witnessed the defects, and I wish to remedy them. Having said thus much, I have, since Villafranca, neither done, nor even thought, anything which could alarm any one. When Lavalette started for Constantinople, the instructions which I gave him were confined to this—"Use every effort to maintain the *status quo*; the interest of France is that Turkey should live as long as possible."

"Now, then, occur the massacres in Syria, and it is asserted that I am very glad to find a new occasion of making a little war, or of playing a new part. Really, people give me credit for very little common sense. If I instantly proposed an expedition, it was because my feelings were those of the people which has put me at its head, and the intelligence from Syria transported me with indignation. My first thought, nevertheless, was to come to an understanding with England. What other interest than that of humanity could

induce me to send troops into that country? Could it be that the possession of it would increase my strength? Can I conceal from myself that Algeria, notwithstanding its future advantages, is a source of weakness to France, which for thirty years has devoted to it the purest of its blood and its gold? I said it in 1852 at Bordeaux, and my opinion is still the same—I have great conquests to make, but only in France. Her interior organization, her moral development, the increase of her resources, have still immense progress to make. There a field exists vast enough for my ambition, and sufficient to satisfy it.

"It was difficult for me to come to an understanding with England on the subject of Central Italy, because I was bound by the Peace of Villafranca. As to Southern Italy, I am free from engagements, and I ask no better than a concert with England on this point, as on others; but, in Heaven's name, let the eminent men who are placed at the head of the English Government lay aside petty jealousies and unjust mistrusts.

"Let us understand one another in good faith, like honest men as we are, and not like thieves who desire to cheat each other.

"To sum up, this is my innermost thought. I desire that Italy should obtain peace, no matter how, but without foreign intervention, and that my troops should be able to quit Rome without compromising the security of the Pope. I could very much wish not to be obliged to undertake the Syrian expedition, and, in any case, not to undertake it alone; firstly, because it will be a great expense; and secondly, because I fear that this intervention may involve the Eastern question; but, on the other hand, I do not see how to resist public opinion in my country, which will never understand that we can leave unpunished, not only the massacre of Christians, but the burning of our consulates, the insult to our flag, and the pillage of the monasteries which were under our protection.

"I have told you all I think, without disguising or omitting anything. Make what use you may think advisable of my letter.

"Believe in my sincere friendship,

"NAPOLEON."

#### MISCELLANEOUS WORKS.\*

General Thomson's object in this very ingenious and lucid little work, which condenses an immense amount of original thought and appropriate illustration within an extraordinary small compass, is to enable musicians to play perfectly in time with all instruments in one or more of the various keys by repeating the intervals over again, commencing at new places. At present, keyed instruments and stringed instruments cannot be made to play perfectly in time, by reason of some of the notes in the chromatic scale not being identical in both sorts of instruments. The General's object, also, is to suggest means for obviating the defects resulting from changes of temperature, and in addition to this, to facilitate the learning of music by the blind. The first thirty-four pages contain the principles, clearly stated, and their application in practice no less felicitously illustrated. The remainder of the work, only 112 pages in all, comprises a chapter on the construction of instruments, and a profusion of explanatory notes, full of curious information, and evincing the most extensive research. There is also an appendix, tracing the connexion between the enharmonic system of the ancients, and the General's theory.

The "Official Illustrated Guide to the Great Western Railways, and to the Bristol and Exeter, and South Wales Railways" are extremely attractive, and will, we doubt not, be much sought after by the thousands who travel annually by train, for the sake of the interesting information, both descriptive and historical, which they contain about the towns and cities wherever a railroad runs or a train stops. Such illustrated guides as these have long been wanted; and the amount, accuracy, and cheapness of the intelligence so conveyed must conduce to place them in the hands of everybody.

#### SERIALS.

*Edinburgh Review*, No. 227. Longman and Co.—The current number of this parent of the Quartiers is not very lively, but it contains some sensible articles. It opens with an analysis of Monsieur Chevalier, the French political economist's work on the effect of gold on prices and commerce. It, of course, proceeds on the regular high doctrinaire principle of the cold-hearted, and, as we believe, narrow-minded, science; but it combats Monsieur Chevalier's whim, that the increase of gold now pouring into the markets will so seriously affect the working classes as he prophesies. The French economist very coolly tells us, that the working classes will be greatly depressed for the next forty years, or half century; and, that they will have to bear, patiently very low wages and many privations. This is not pleasant to hear, nor can we expect that the sufferers would patiently bear such inflictions. It seems, however, that such is to be their lot, and they are told that, like the eels, they will in time get used to the perpetual skinning. Our English reviewer, however, takes no such gloomy view, but, on the contrary, promises increasing work and plenty of it. The Diary and Correspondence of the Right Honourable George Rose forms an interesting historical article, although it comes somewhat late into the field. A very excellent paper gives a lucid and succinct account of the absorption of the Duchy of Lorraine by the kingdom of France, in the last century; and is evidently detailed as a warning to statesmen and states, although not a word of comparison is made between this aggression and that lately made on Savoy. Some scientific articles, one on "Airy Scheffer," the painter, and one on "Reform in Parliament," close the varied and able, though not very lively, number of this highly respectable periodical.

*The National Review*. Chapman and Hall—This very able review

\* *Principles and Practice of Just Intonation*. By General T. PARSONS THOMPSON. Effingham Wilson; Ward and Co., Paternoster-row.

The *Official Illustrated Guide to the Great Western Railway*, with 300 beautiful Engravings. The *Official Illustrated Guide to the Bristol and Exeter, South and North Devon, South Wales and Cornwall Railways*. By George Meason. With 120 Engravings. London: Richard Griffin and Co.

contains several carefully written *resumes* and reviews. A capital condensation of the great Cardinal Richelieu is highly interesting, and is a fine comment on his policy and its results. A very curious article entitled "The Devils of London," affords an elucidation of their spiritual, or mesmeric, or epileptic manifestations, which, in some shape or other, have been rife in all ages. Of course the object is to elucidate the great marvel of the present time—spirit-rapping, table-turning, &c. A clever analysis of Abbott's writings opens the number; and a curious article on the "Natural History of the Ancients" follows. The articles on the "House of Lords" and on "Mr. Gladstone" betray a policy we do not adhere to. A great endeavour is made to exalt Mr. W. C. Roscoe into a first-rate poet, but hardly successfully. One of the most interesting articles is that on a "French Metaphysician of the last Age"—M. de Bivian. And, altogether, the number may be presumed to be exceedingly interesting and informing.

*Blackwood's Magazine*. No. 538. W. Blackwood and Sons.—"National Defences and Volunteers" ably opens the number, and the probabilities and possibilities of a French campaign on English ground carefully gone into, and the different movements are very cleverly discussed. It places a just reliance on our Volunteers; and it relies more on men than on fortifications, though it does not ignore the utility of the latter in judicious places, and to a moderate extent. A tilt is run with Lord Macaulay's treatment of Claverhouse, Viscount Dundee, and of course he is washed as snow white, although his garment is crimsoned with human blood. The pursuit of Tantia Topee is an able exposition of a portion of the late Indian campaign, and is illustrated by a map. An original letter recounts the horrors of the great earthquake at Lisbon, a hundred and six years ago, a somewhat antiquated subject, but exceedingly interesting when once fairly read into. Norman Sinclair continues his desultory narrative; and an article on the "Transition State of our Indian Empire" closes the varied number.

*Frazer's Magazine*, for August, 1860, No. 368.—This magazine sustains its well-earned reputation. The instructive and amusing elements are judiciously blended. The opening article, "Concerning Summer Days," affords pleasant, discursive, and chatty reading. In a paper "On the Relations of the Public to the Science and Practice of Medicine," by Thos. Mayo, President of the Royal College of Physicians, an important subject is discussed by one who, of all others, may be supposed to be well acquainted with it. "Novels of the Day, their Writers and Readers," is an article that will be read with interest. "The Proposed National Defences;" "Essays and Reviews;" "The Ireland Forgeries;" and "Pope's M.S. Notes on Tickle's Homer" are all attractive in their different spheres. The two stories, "Gryll Grange," by the Author of Headlong Hall, and "Wheat and Tares," progress respectively through chapters 19 to 21, and 22 to 25, not without a maintenance of interest. The only poetry is "A Lament," the sentiments of which are striking and immensely suggestive. An excellent feature in this "monthly" is its "Chronicle of Current History," wherein a lucid and comprehensive history of the month is digested and condensed into about eleven clear and very readable pages.

*The Cornhill Magazine*: No. 8. Smith, Elder, and Co.—The Framley Parsonage advances its descriptive pages, but the interest rests mainly on its portraiture of character, for there is very little of story to be interested in. "Unto this Last," is a strange, eccentric paper on Political Economy; but with some of its demoucements of this very imperfect science we agree, although we cannot but think the writer grows rather wild towards the close of the article. "Physiological Riddles" treats scientific matters lightly and easily, but we do not perceive any novelty of either illustration or denomination in these papers. We have long been told that life is sustained by the continually shovelling coals on a perpetually consuming fire. The Lectures of the Editor on the "Georges" depicts his sacred Majesty George the Second, the lover of soldiers and the hater of "Poetry and Painting." We do not suppose that the magazine of Cornhill is eagerly sought for in the region of Pimlico and Belgravia; though the article is sweetened with a compliment to verging royalty. "How I quitted Naples" is an *apropos* article. "Stranger than Fiction" is a solemn asseveration of the wonders of spirit-rapping, &c. Mr. Sala abates no jot of care in his "Hogarthian Papers," and they are very cleverly written; although like "Cardinal Bembo's Memoirs," they contain a great deal *de omnibus rebus*, and a little bit by-the-by about the Cardinal hero. Holidays is a good natured paper, and No. 6 of the "Round-about-Papers" rather the reverse, giving pages where sentences would do, to the flagellation of the idle and gossiping propensities of a *littérateur*, who like a literary *chiffonnier*, gathers all scraps, dirty or clean, true or false, to send to the incorrigible quidnuncs and devourers of cattle in the United States. Silent contempt is the only worthy punishment for such garrulous babblers.

*Macmillan's Magazine*, for August, 1860, No. 10.—This number has a very martial air. "The Navies of England and France" are in the van, while "The Youth of England to Garibaldi's Legion" bring up the rear of its table of contents. In addition to which we have plenty of "Talk about the National Rifle Association Meeting at Wimbledon," by Captain J. C. Templer, commanding the 18th Middlesex. From "War's Alarms" we jump to "Two Love Stories" (a short poem), and a novel, "Tom Brown at Oxford," which completes the 24th and 25th chapters with *éclat*. The more serious articles are "Froude's History, vols. 5 and 6," by the Rev. T. D. Maurice; and "The Cardross Case and the National Church of Scotland;" "The youth of England," being in verse; and also "The Mystery"—it will be seen that the metrical element enters largely into the composition of the present number. The editor, Professor Masson, contributes an article on "Thomas Hood." "Uninspired Prophecy" by Herbert Coleridge, is a title which of itself is well adapted to suggest curious reflexions to the thoughtful; and "The Artisan's Saturday Night" by Percy Greg, might be read with profit by the class which forms the subject of it. Altogether the present number is a good one.

*Dublin University Magazine*, for August, 1860, No. 332.—This magazine appropriately commences with "The Irish Question" (*La Question Irlandaise*), in the course of which the contingent reign of

"Mac Mahon the 1st, King of Ireland," comes in for discussion, somewhat ere its time; the concluding article being on "The future of Sicily." The present number may be said to begin and end with a prospective peep into futurity. There is an interesting paper entitled "Rienzi" by Professor de Vericour; "The waters of Babylon" meander through five pages of poetry; and "Bonifazio" descends from its

"White pyramid of rock above  
The straits between the islands."

to appear in a metrical form in the pages of the periodical we are noticing. "Three days at Killarney," would just be what we should like to luxuriate in at "this present writing," but piles of works for review hem us in in every side, and miles of "leaders" stretch between us and rustication, or any hope of the *dolce far niente*. Among the articles in the present number—"Vonved the Dane, Count of Elsinore;" "The Informer;" "The Paris Agricultural Show;" "A French Opera Glass;" "Our Political Chorus;" "A pinch of Gold Dust;" and an "Historical Memoir of the O'Briens," will be found to contain mental *pabulum* of various sorts to suit various mental palates.

*The North American Review*, July, 1860, No. 188.—The contents of the present number are of a varied description. The first article, with a formidable Greek and Latin title in the table of contents, is on "A new Edition of the Septuagint;" immediately following which we have "Landscape Gardening," a much more flowery subject, if not so important a one. "Slavery in Rome" is pregnant with suggestive instruction which the reader is left to apply to existing institutions which, unhappily, are not in essence, however they may be in name, confined to one country in particular. "Latifundia perdiderunt Italiani.—Large Estates ruined Italy. This is Pliny's judgment," says the writer of the article in question, "and its truth is generally accepted . . .

*Slavery undermined the social structure, and was the chief support of a system of large estates.*" The scope and tendency of the article may be gleaned from the concluding passages:—"Into the details of the institution (slavery) itself, and the wretchedness of its victims, we have not thought it desirable to enter; it was its history, rather than its antiquities, that we wished to consider. This we have done from two points of view—the changes it underwent in form and nature, and the ruin it brought upon liberty and civilization. But the two aspects have illustrated each other, as slavery and Roman Institutions have reacted on each other. It was the degeneracy of the Roman character that made slavery so harsh; but it was in great part slavery that debauched the Roman character. It was the *latifundia*, or large estates, that gave slavery its political power; but slavery enabled the system of *latifundia* to develop itself. It was slave labour that annihilated small estates in Italy; and it was foreign captives brought as slaves to Rome, that freedmen crowded the city tribes and constituted the city mob. It seems not too much to say that slavery more than ought else was the worm which gnawed at the root of ancient civilization; its soundness and vitality gone, the whole fabric fell." The thing slavery itself exists at present to a much greater extent under other names than is generally supposed; and to ward off the legitimate consequences, will tax the abilities of our greatest statesmen and sociologists in the approaching future. There are several other articles on topics of interest. "An American Poet; James Gate Percival;" "An American Statesman; Thomas Jefferson;" and "Margaret Fuller Ossoli," each form the subject of a paper. There is an article on "Recent French Literature," another on an Italian author, "Ugo Foscolo." "Influence of Political Economy on Legislation" will be read with interest; and "Strauss and the Mythic Theory," carries us into the hazy regions of mystical exercitation, with a guide who does not seem to see his way clear himself. There are two local subjects discussed, which, however, are of wider than local interest, "The History of North Carolina," and "The Charities of Boston."

*The Spiritual Magazine* for August, No. 8.—Those who desire to know the incognizable, to understand the incomprehensible, to handle the intangible, to manipulate the impalpable, to discern things invisible, to transcend the experiences acquired through all hitherto known inlets of knowledge, should consult this serial, which begins with quotations from Proverbs and St. Paul, and ends with punching Punch's head, and making a Sayers-cum-Heenan attack upon Mr. Charles Dickens.

*The Welcome Guest*. Part 10, for August.—This "Magazine for all," contains all sorts of reading for all sorts of persons, on all sorts of subjects, suited for all times and all places, and this is all that we can say about it just now; all our space being exhausted, as this is the time of all others when we have least to spare—all the quarterlies, monthlies, and weeklies, in parts, being showered in upon us from all quarters.

*The Leisure Hour*. Part 103, for July.—This serial, the character and purpose of which are well-known (it having reached its 448th No.), shows no signs of any likelihood that it will not continue to receive the patronage hitherto bestowed upon it by the reading portion of the public.

*One of Them*. By Charles Lever. No. 9 for August.—"One of them"—we use the words in the sense of one of Mr. Lever's clever productions, deserves the same ample share of public favour which has always been accorded to the others of this popular writer's amusing novels. Detailed criticism is in general to be reserved until the story in its entirety is before the public, when it can be reviewed as a whole.

*Le Follet*, for August, 1860.—Many a bright pair of eyes will glance over "La Mode," which forms the leading article of this "leading journal," of the "leaders of fashion," and which is specially devoted to the "beaux arts" of designing and "fashioning" those elegant nothing which drap the enchanting forms of the "feminine institution;" and which, spread out and expanded over the rotund amplitude of hoops and crinoline, constitute the *joli* subject of three of the coloured illustrations or dress-maps to which the letter-press refers. The fourth is of a more severe and scientific character, and may be described as the anatomy of dress elucidated by diagrams.

## RECORD OF THE WEEK.

## HOME AND COLONIAL.

Last Saturday we received a telegram (too late for publication in our No. of that day) that the investigation of the charges against Miss Constance Kent, in connexion with the frightful child murder, at Road, had terminated in her being discharged from custody, her father being bound over in £200 for her production if called upon. The investigation went to show that there was not a tittle of tangible evidence against the young lady in question, and there seems to be an opinion in many quarters that great precipitancy was evinced in the proceedings. On the other hand, it must be remembered that where the safety of society in matters of life and death is concerned, the utmost vigilance, and most rigid scrutiny into all such cases are imperatively necessary.

Very satisfactory intelligence has reached us from Canada, to the effect that there was every indication of an abundant harvest.

Thomas Winslow, charged with poisoning Mrs. James, at Liverpool, has been committed for trial.

A tragedy of unsurpassed horror was enacted in London on Tuesday. At an early hour in the morning four persons residing at No. 16, Mason-street, Walworth, were murdered under circumstances of the greatest atrocity. The supposed murderer is a young man named John Godfrey Youngman, and his victims were his mother, his brothers, and the young woman to whom he was paying his addresses. About six o'clock in the morning a lodger in the house heard a scream, which induced him to go upstairs, where he saw the horrible spectacle of four dead bodies, with their throats cut, and having stabs in the breast—a mode of putting to death which was perhaps suggested by the Frome murder. No quarrel was heard between the prisoner and the murdered persons, and no cause has yet been assigned for the hideous deed. The prisoner states that he killed his mother in self-defence, and leaves it to be inferred that she committed the murders. He was examined at the Lambeth Police-court the same morning, and remanded. A multitude of rumours in connexion with the fearful event are in circulation, but we abstain from noticing them until the authentic can be sifted and winnowed from the fictional. The inquest on the Walworth murder was held on Thursday, when, after a prolonged investigation, the inquiry was adjourned till Monday.

The Prince of Wales landed in Canada on the 24th ult.; he was to leave on the 26th.

Considerable excitement has been created in Liverpool, by the suicide of Mr. Jeremiah Chaffers, the manager of the Royal Bank. The fearful deed is attributed to mental distress; but we hear of no imputation of dishonesty resting upon the unfortunate deceased. The verdict (on Wednesday) was "Temporary Insanity."

An alarming accident took place on the London and Blackwall Railway yesterday morning. An engine got off the line, and with it was capsized the whole of the train. Fortunately, however, none of the passengers sustained the slightest injury.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Hammill, one of the magistrates at the Marylebone Police-court. Only a few months has elapsed since he succeeded Mr. Long, on that gentleman's retirement.

A grand national demonstration—the Royal Yacht Squadron Regatta—commenced yesterday. Prince Albert's Cup was won by the Arrow.

On Wednesday the "public stocks and funds of Great Britain" rose with an elastic bound, like a balloon lightened of its ballast, upon the publication of the French Emperor's letter to his Ambassador at London. Count Persigny; Consols closing at 93 5-8ths to 4.

The deaths in London last week were the same in number as those of the previous week—viz., 975. The deaths have not reached 1,000 in any of the four weeks of July except the second. The average number of deaths has been obtained for the weeks corresponding with last week of the ten years 1850-59, and this, with a correction for increase of population, is 1,206; the actual number returned is, therefore, less than the estimated amount by 231. As some explanation of a result apparently so favourable, it should be added that the high mortality suffered during a great part of this year, prematurely deprived the population of many infirm lives, but chiefly the weather, though still cold for the season, has been more favourable to health, and has therefore lightened the bills of mortality.

At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the mean height of the barometer was 29.685 inches. The mean degree of humidity was 82. On Monday the humidity was 98, approaching closely complete saturation. The wind was in the south-west on Monday; with this exception it was in the north-west generally on the first five days. It was south-west the rest of the week. Rain fell to the depth of 0.80 inches. It fell chiefly on Monday and Saturday. A heavy thunderstorm occurred between four o'clock p.m. and six on the latter day, and several afterfalls were heard on Sunday in various localities.

A crowded public meeting was held on Wednesday evening, at Spafford Chapel, to celebrate the 26th anniversary of negro emancipation in the West Indies, when the Revs. George Smith, John Strongton, Henry James, Dr. Clever, Mr. Day (described as a coloured gentleman from Canada), Mr. George Thompson, and Mr. Wilks, were present.

The execution of John Fenton, at Nottingham, for the murder of Charles Spencer, took place on Wednesday, without any confession on the part of the prisoner.

On Wednesday evening a meeting was held at Blackheath, with the view of forming a Volunteer Corps of skilled operatives; Major H. Barnell in the chair. Dr. Carr, Captain Brandham (Blackheath Artillery), Mr. Matthews (a working man), and Mr. Webb having addressed the meeting upon resolutions expressive of its objects, the proceedings terminated.

The free drinking fountain at Adelaide-street, London-bridge, was opened on Wednesday.

## FOREIGN.

With regard to the Syrian massacres, the latest intelligence which has reached us, up to the time of writing, was to the effect that as late as the 13th ultimo, the curtain had not yet fallen on these fearful tragedies which were still being enacted. The number of victims

had been computed at 2,000. The Turkish army in Syria was to be increased to a force 26,000 strong. The bridges of Galata and Pera were raised every night. The Marquis de Lafayette had had a conference with the Sultan of three hours' duration. Disturbances having arisen through the resistance offered by some of the Armenians to the burial of Protestant Armenians in their cemetery, Sir H. Bulwer requested the protection of the military, and forty persons were killed and wounded. At the meeting of Ambassadors, at Paris, on Monday, the original plan of convention previously agreed to by the Great Powers, was entirely changed, the six articles having been carefully revised in such a manner as to remove any probability of offending the susceptibilities of the Sultan, by an appearance of coercing his independent action. The representatives of the Great Powers will, therefore, refer to their several Courts prior to definitively signing the convention, until which is done, the despatch of troops will, of course, be delayed. Intelligence from Damascus to the 12th July, showed that 6,000 houses belonging to Christians had been destroyed, and the Jewish quarter of the town burnt, as well as the houses of Turks, in which the Christian women had found refuge. The massacres had lasted eighty hours. 2,000 Christians, under Abd-el-Kader's protection, had suffered severely from hunger. The new Governor had arrived with 1,200 troops.

The most interesting feature in our foreign news this week will be found in the letter of the Emperor of the French, on the subject of the Imperial policy.

## ENTERTAINMENTS.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.—This week, which brings the present season to a close at the Royal Italian Opera, Covent-garden, has been rendered remarkable in musical annals by the unusually powerful cast with which the greatest work extant—Mozart's masterpiece—has been produced at this theatre with the most brilliant success, the attractions of the past "campaign" being thus raised to a climax. On Monday "Don Giovanni" was given, with Madame Grisi, who, in the joint character of singer and actress combined, is even now the undisputed empress of the lyric boards in the leading part (*Donna Anna*), Mdlle. Rosa Cilli as *Donna Elvira*, and Madame Pencó as *Zerlina*. Signor Tambriler was the *Don Ottavio* of the evening; Signor Ronconi, one of the greatest actors on any stage, enacted *Leporello*; and Signor Mario, as *Don Giovanni*, represented the most difficult character to be found in the whole range of the lyric drama. The parts of *Il Commendatore* and *Masetto* were respectively filled by Signors Taglialico and Polonini. It will thus be seen that the combination of performers alone and of itself was replete with the highest degree of musical interest. As to the expediency of altering Mozart's score in order to allot the music of the hero, written for a baritone, to a tenor, we do not intend, in this short notice, to say a word. The cast in itself was unique. The other opera performed during the week was "Le Prophète," which was given on Tuesday and Thursday, and is announced for this evening. We must defer our *resume* of the past season at this house till next week.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Mr. E. T. Smith's first campaign at Her Majesty's Theatre was brought to a close on Saturday last with a brilliant *finale*, which did ample justice to the unexampled attractions and successes of the season throughout. Our space being of the least extensive at this moment, when a variety of important matters are pressing on our attention, we must condense our *resume* of the past summer's triumphs into the smallest possible compass. The subscription included about 40 nights, besides which there were half that number of extra nights, making about 60 in all, and commenced on the 10th of April, when Flotow's "Martha" was produced, with Mdlle. Titiens in the principal part. "La Favorita" followed, in which Madame Borghi-Mamo sustained the chief role; *Fernando*, Sig. Mongini, and Sig. Everardi in the character of the King; and "Trovatore" gave an opportunity of appreciating the Borghi-Mamo as *Azucena*, Giuglini and Titiens being primo tenore and soprano respectively. In "La Traviata," the late fascinating cantatrice (*late* as a *performer*), Mdlle. Piccolomini, appeared with Mongini as *Alfredo* (Giuglini's original part). Then came Sig. Campani's new opera, "Almina," in which Mdlle. Piccolomini appeared thrice, and then bid adieu to the public (may we suggest a wish that it may not be final?) Rossini's "Otello" followed, with Borghi-Mamo, Mongini, and Everardi, all of whom won fresh laurels as *Desdemona*, *Otello*, and *Iago*, respectively. *Lucrezia Borgia* was then delineated by the majestic Titiens, in Donizetti's famous opera of that name, with a degree of energy, power, and intelligence, which makes us regret less than we otherwise should the proximate retirement of one who for years has identified that role with her name. Madame Borghi-Mamo next achieved a triumph as *Zerlina*, in "Don Giovanni"; the hero of which, demanding a combination of mental powers and physical qualification, all of which could hardly ever be concentrated in one and the same man, was most creditably represented by Sig. Everardi; *Leporello* being enacted by Sig. Vialetti, whose versatility adapts him for every description of part in which a sound and sonorous bass voice under excellent management can be required; and Mdlle. Vaneri's well-conceived and conscientious rendering of *Dame Elvira* tended to develop the importance of a part which deserves to be prominently brought out in every performance of this masterpiece of the lyric stage in which completeness is aimed at. In connexion with this opera, we must not omit the name of Sig. Gassier, whose dramatic powers enabled him to win golden opinions in a part (*Leporello*) which he subsequently sustained, the music of which is not suited for a baritone but a bass. In the next opera, "Norma," Mdlle. Titiens was the druidical priestess; and this was succeeded by Rigoletto, with a new bass-baritone, Sig. Sebastiano Ronconi, as the jester, whose name gives a title to the opera. His humour, irresistibly droll, is rather of the studied and scientific sort; but the *ars est celare artem* principle is successfully realised in his delineations. The *Gilda* in this performance was allotted to a new candidate for musical honours, Mdlle. Marie Brunetti, a very young and very interesting cantatrice, with a soprano of fine silvery quality and considerable power, who at once received the favourable suffrages of the critical audience of this theatre. The immortal and ever favourite, because ever fresh, *Barbiere* afforded ample scope for the florid and finished vocalization of Sig. Belart as *Almaviva*.

nina; while Madame Borghi-Mamo, with a temerity only justified by its success, "embellished" the principal arias into something hardly distinguishable as "Dunque io sou," and "Una voce poca fa;" but not less melodious, and which possessed the merit of novelty. A subsequent performance of this favourite composition was rendered memorable by the advent of Sig. Ciampi in *Bartolo*, and who may be shortly described, in his buffo parts, as Lablache, without his imperfections of physique. His medium height and figure suitable for all characters—his powerful and facile organ, equal in volume and sonorousness to any we have ever heard—his buoyant exuberant humour of the spontaneous unstudied cast—his falsetto, which resounds like a chorus of contraltos, all combine to make him one of the greatest of bass singers. The declamatory school of singing has many a student on the lyric boards; but the Italian school, in which the ideal of vocal expression is produced by the organs of sound alone, is presided over by a queen of song who, in this region, rules supreme. The reader will at once understand we allude to Madame Alboni, who, in a later representation of "Il Barbiere," sang the music written for the heroine, *Rosina*; Sig. Everardi sustaining the part of *Assur* with unequivocal success. In the "Huguenots," Mdlle. Titiens appeared as *Valentin*, a delineation which she has made her own, and in which she is unapproachable. In this opera Mdlle. Louise Michal made her *debut* at Her Majesty's Theatre in the part of the *Queen*, which she sustained with great ability, vocal and dramatic. "Ernani," with Mdlle. Lotti de la Santa as *Eleira*, was produced next in succession; and the last-mentioned soprano (Mdlle. Lotti) also appeared with marked success and *éclat* in the favourite "Matrimonio Segreto," the cast of which was excellent, and comprised Mme. Alboni, Sigori Giuglini, Everardi, and Ciampi; and Mdlle. Vaneri, equally gifted as an actress and as a singer. The revival of Weber's "Oberon" (adapted to the Italian boards by Mr. Benedict, with the assistance of Mr. Planché, by whom the libretto was written) was, perhaps, the most remarkable achievement of the season. For the efficient performance of this masterpiece the whole resources of Mr. E. T. Smith's "double" company were put in requisition, and the result was such as might have been expected from the exertions set on foot to produce it. "La Prova d'un Opera seria," came next, being revived for the first time on the occasion of Mr. Benedict's morning concert, at this theatre, when the *finale* (in which Signor Ciampi, who took the principal role, distributes the parts to the orchestra), was unanimously encored, despite the sedate tone of preprandial audiences, in which the feminine element always predominates so largely. Its repetition brought fresh laurels to Signor Ciampi, and brimming audiences to the theatre. "Lucia di Lammermoor" came towards the end of the season (Herr Steger, a German tenor appearing in it, for the first time); as did also "La Figlia," in which Madame Marie Cabel, a singer endowed with the highest gifts, appeared. In our rapid summary we know not how many names we have omitted from Mr. Smith's almost-too-numerous-to-reckon company. We have only been able to afford space for the leading parts; those of Madame Lemaire and Signor Aldighieri occur to us for enumeration. The reputation of the ballet at this house was sustained by Mdlles. Poccioni, Cucchi, and Ferraris, Pasquale, and Morlacchi, &c. This department being under the direction of M. Petit, Mr. Benedict and Signor Arditi discharged the functions of conductors and composers to the establishment. Altogether, we congratulate Mr. Smith on the signal success of his new enterprise, in which he has so well maintained his character as an indefatigable and efficient caterer for the public.

**OLYMPIC THEATER.**—Mr. W. S. Emden's benefit took place on Monday night, when Miss Louise Keeley, whose *debut* at the Princess's, somewhat less than a year ago, was one of the pleasantest events of Mr. Augustus Harris's management, made her first appearance. She played Minnie, the smart, impudent little rustic, who charms with her vivacity and awes with her temper in the favourite picturesque comedietta "Somebody Else." The part suits her well, and her pretty ebullitions of gaiety and indignation alike found favour with her audience. Her singing was a great success, she had a couple of those characteristic songs that as much depend on acting as on vocalization, and in these she is not to be excelled. Mr. F. Robinson, a clever and well-looking actor of young gentlemen, in both serious and comic drama, likewise made his first appearance, and efficiently represented the wheelwright, Hans Moritz. A highly finished German landscape from the pencil of Mr. Telbin, gives to the little drama that local colouring which is always the object of laudable solicitude under the Olympic management. The "Scapogot," once associated with the names of Mr. W. Farren and Mrs. Onger, was revived, Mr. Addison and Mrs. W. S. Emden taking the principal parts.

**STRAND THEATRE.**—Mr. Horace Wigan's *petite* comedy, entitled "Observation and Flirtation," has been brought out at this theatre. Mr. Sanguine (Mr. W. H. Swanborough), a fine gentleman, with a great deal of spare time on his hands, was enamoured of Mrs. Lambert (Miss M. Oliver), a fair widow, while her husband was living, but since the decease of the lamented Lambert has transferred his affections to the wife (Miss E. Buxton) of Mr. Seedeep (Mr. Turner), a conceited old fool, who fancies that he can read the human heart at a glance, but does not perceive that Sanguine is courting his better half under his very nose. Mrs. Lambert, who at first believes that Sanguine retains his old predilection, not only consoles herself for her disappointment by marrying the less brilliant and far worthier Dr. Sloman (Mr. Parselle), but also opens the eyes of the almost fascinated Mrs. Seedeep by pretending that she is also unmarried, and thus cooling at once the ardour of Sanguine, who loses two chances together.

**CRYSTAL PALACE.**—The concert last Saturday, at which an admirable selection of vocal and instrumental music was given, and at which Mr. Santley, M. de Vroye (solo flutist to the Emperor of the French), and other talented *artistes* appeared, was rendered peculiarly attractive by Mdlle. Désirée Artot's famous piece, "Al dolce canto," popularly known as Rode's air with variations. Mdlle. Artot is the *prima donna* of the Royal Italian Opera at Berlin, and her name would occupy a prominent place in the company of any opera in the world. Her voice possesses in a high degree the three indispensable natural requisites of sweetness, power, and flexibility, and when it is stated that her style was formed under the personal superintendence of one of the greatest

singers that ever trod the boards, it will be needless to say that her powers have been cultivated to the highest degree and in the very best of schools. The "air" we have mentioned was, of course, enthusiastically encored. Miss E. Wilkinson made her first appearance on the present occasion, and was encouraged with an encore in a bolero of Verdi's (*I vespri Siciliani*). Herr Manne conducted.

**ROYAL SURVEY GARDENS—JULLIEN FESTIVAL.**—Madame Jullien's benefit took place on Wednesday. The *fetes* commenced at 3, and an uninterrupted succession of amusements, comprising every description of musical performance and *al fresco* entertainment continued till midnight. We can only find room for a single enumeration of the principal attractions provided on the occasion for the pleasure-seeking portion of the public. The bands of the Coldstream, Grenadier, and Fusilier Guards, under the respective conductors of Mr. Godfrey, Mr. D. Godfrey, and Mr. C. Godfrey, junior, performed an excellent selection of martial and other suitable pieces. The Ohio Minstrels were as "funny" as ever. The Vocal Association, under the leadership of its eminent director, Mr. Benedict, sang two excellent part songs, during the grand concert, the first part of which was devoted to six instrumental pieces, beginning with the overture to Semiramide, and ending with Prince George Galitzin's Surprise Polka (unanimously encored), the Prince's majestic figure and gesture in conducting, with his face to the audience, producing an impressive effect. The principal *artistes* present were Madame Alboni, the greatest singer in the world, if not the greatest lyric actress (for the two characters are not identical), Madame Marie Brunetti, and Signor Gassier, all three from Her Majesty's Theatre; Misses Palmer, Poole, Rate, Rane, Brougham, and Brougham; Mademoiselle Parepa, Mademoiselle Enrichetta Camille, Madame Weiss, Mr. Weiss, and Mr. Sims Reeves. The encores were Mademoiselle Alboni's "Il Segreto" (repeated), and her "Ah quel gioino" (changed for "In questo semplice"—the Tyrolienne from Betley); both Mr. Reeves' songs "I Love You," and "They say that all Things Change;" Miss Poole's Barney O'Hea, changed for "Wapping Old Stairs," and Mademoiselle Parepa's "I Dreamt that I Dwelt in Marble Halls." The conductors and accompanists were Prince George Galitzin, Dr. James Pech, and Messrs. Benedict, A. Mellon, and Emile Berger. The orchestra was recruited from both Operas, and the soloists of the late M. Jullien's band. The lowest figure which can be taken as representing the number of persons present may be set down at 15,000, and a better pleased audience never assembled at this favourite place of summer recreation.

#### PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Lords on Thursday, several bills were advanced a stage. Lord GRANVILLE, in reply to the Earl of CARNABY, who called the attention of the Government to the condition of the convicts in the Bermuda Convict Establishment, stated that the Government would investigate the matter. Earl FORTESCUE called attention to the pay of adjutants of battalions of volunteers in rural districts, who were insufficiently paid at 10s. a-day, as a horse was indispensable for them, and he hoped that an additional allowance would be made. He also considered that a permanent sergeant should be attached to each company of volunteers. Earl DE GREY and RIVON replied, that the first proposal was under consideration by the Government, but the latter could not be entertained.—In the House of Commons, the Metropolitan Gas Bill and the Ecclesiastical Commission Bill passed through committee at the morning sitting. In the evening, Mr. BRIGHT gave notice for Monday, that he would move that it was inexpedient to go into committee on the fortifications. Mr. DISraeli and several other members complained of the way in which the Government had delayed the foreign paper duty question, and after a short discussion Lord PALMERSTON's motion for Government orders of the day having precedence of notices of motion on and after Tuesday, 7th August, was agreed to. Mr. HENESSEY's motion that half of all vacancies to be filled up in the European commissioned officer-ships in the line or local forces in India, be allotted to the sons of officers, line or local, or the sons of officers of the civil service in India who shall pass the prescribed examination, and that the remaining vacancies be filled up by open competition, the successful competitor to pass through one of the Royal Military Colleges, was negatived by a majority of fifty-eight. The debate on the Indian army, after Lord PALMERSTON had asserted the inexhaustibility of his patience, and that he would sit till Christmas, if necessary, to get through the measure, and Mr. HORNEMAN had promised his indefatigable opposition, was adjourned. The order for going into the Public-houses and Theatres Bill was discharged (on the motion of Sir G. C. LEWIS). The Excise Duties Bill was passed through committee *pro forma*, and the East India Transfer of Stock Bill was read a second time, and the House adjourned at a quarter past 2.—In the House of Lords, on Friday, the Bleaching and Dyeing Works Bill, and the County Coroners' Bill, were read a second time.—In the House of Commons (morning sitting) the details of the Landlord and Tenant (Ireland) Bill were considered in Committee, and the Militia Ballot Bill passed through Committee. In the evening, Lord JOHN RUSSELL announced that steps had been taken to carry out the resolution of the House with regard to a maritime treaty with France. Sir G. LEWIS, in answer to Mr. M. MILNES, stated that a convention with the American Minister in London had been negotiated, with reference to the alleged crimes committed on board vessels trading between the United States and Great Britain. In answer to Mr. BENTINCK, Sir G. LEWIS thought that the foreigners resident in this country were not deserving of the suspicion that they might become dangerous as spies or other hostile agents in case of a rupture; he considered them persons mostly engaged in various pursuits of industry and trade, and not likely to embark in the projects alluded to. He had no desire to see Government armed with any discretionary power of dealing with foreigners, and it was not their intention to propose any measure of that nature. After the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER had declined to follow Mr. HUBBARD into a financial discussion, M. HORNEMAN complained of the state of public business. He advanced a formidable array of no less than forty bills pressing for immediate attention, and enumerated questions of the highest importance, the consideration of which, he contended, could not be postponed: and he had

much stress on the difficulties of Indian legislation, criticising the conduct of the Indian Secretary with no little severity. He was followed by Sir C. WOOD, Mr. T. BADING, Lord PALMERSTON, and Mr. DISRAELI, whose address, after it was delivered, was declared by the SPEAKER to have been, in common, with other recent speeches, irregular. After some other matters had been discussed, the debate on European Forces (India) Bill was resumed by Mr. ROEBUCK; and, ultimately, the motion of Sir J. ELPHINSTONE (for an instruction to the Committee that they have power for the future regulation, discipline, and patronage of the European Forces serving in India) was negatived; and the debate on the motion of Mr. H. SEYMOUR adjourned till Monday. The Endowed Charities' Bill was read a second time, and after the transaction of some other business, the House adjourned at two o'clock, till Monday. In the House of Lords, on Monday, Lord CLIVE took the oath and his seat. Lord WODEHOUSE, at the instance of Lord NORMANDY, consented, on behalf of Government, to produce the despatches of the British Minister, in Tuscany, in the years 1855, 1856, and 1857, referring to the condition and administration of the Roman States; after which, several bills having been advanced a stage, the House adjourned at ten minutes to eight o'clock.—In the House of Commons, the debate on the European Forces (India) Bill, was resumed by Mr. H. SEYMOUR, who, after being interrupted by Mr. HORSMAN, who, in turn, was interrupted by Mr. SPEAKER's declaring him to be "irregular," seconded Mr. M. MILNES's motion, "that it be an instruction to the Committee that they have power to make provision that all appointments to military commands in India (the Command-in-Chief alone excepted), and all staff appointments, whether military, naval, or medical, be vested in the Governor-General in Council, and other constituted authorities in India;" the motion, however, was ultimately negatived. Sir J. FERGUSON then moved, "that it is inexpedient to proceed further with legislation respecting the European troops in India, until the whole plan of the Government for the regulation of the military force in that country shall have been submitted to Parliament;" and this motion was also negatived by a majority of thirty-eight. After a motion for adjournment, by Sir J. ELPHINSTONE, a protest from Lord PALMERSTON against unnecessary delays, and observations from various other speakers on the subject, the House went into Committee on the bill, when a proviso was added to clause 1, "that the same or equal provision be made for the sons of persons who have served, and the advantages as to pay, pensions, and allowances, privileges, promotion, and otherwise secured to the military forces of the East India Company, by the Act of the 21st and 22nd Victoria, cap. 106, be maintained in any plan for the re-organization of the Indian army." The question, that the CHAIRMAN do leave the chair being agreed to, the report was ordered to be received that day (Monday).—Bills read a third time and passed: The Senior Member of Council (India) Bill; the Superannuation Act (1829) Amendment Bill; the Admiralty Jurisdiction (India) Bill, and the Poor Relief, &c. (Ireland) Bill. Some other business having been got through, the House adjourned at ten minutes past two o'clock.—In the House of Lords, on Tuesday, several bills having passed through committee, Lord STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE postponed his statement on Syria till Friday, and the House adjourned.—In the Commons (morning sitting) the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER gave notice that he would, next Monday, in committee on the paper duties, move two resolutions—one with reference to paper from France admitted under treaty, and the other respecting the paper of other countries. The Savings' Banks Bill passed through committee: and the committee on the Refreshment and Wine Licenses (Ireland) Bill got as far, after considerable discussion, as clause 38. Lord JOHN RUSSELL, in answer to Mr. BAILLIE COCHRANE, said he had seen the French Emperor's letter to his ambassador in London, and which epistle is now before the public. The European Forces (India) Bill advanced a stage, and the third reading was fixed for Friday. Colonel FRENCH moved for leave to bring in a bill to extend the law relating to Volunteer Corps to Ireland, and was opposed by Mr. Cardwell, not because he doubted the loyalty of the Irish, but because he feared that to arm the great body of the people of Ireland would only lead to disturbance among the people themselves. Lord PALMERSTON followed on the same side, and on the division the numbers were—ayes, 30; noes, 56; majority against, 56. Mr. W. EWART moved, but, after some observations from G. LEWIS, withdrew certain resolutions framed with reference to the mode of transacting business. The House was then counted out, there being only thirty-three members present.—In the House of Commons on Wednesday, the details of the Attorneys, Solicitors, Proctors, and Certified Conveyancers' Bill were discussed in committee, and the House then went into committee on the Metropolis Local Management Act Amendment Bill, the discussion of which occupied the rest of the debate—the original clauses having been agreed to, and some new ones proposed. The following bills passed through committee:—Augmentation of Small Benefits (Ireland) Bill, Infants' Marriage Amendment Bill, and the East India Stock Transfer Bill.

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